

MADE IN ENGLAND

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NO 7199

Non-Kuwaiti officials will not be dismissed

KUWAIT'S cabinet has suspended a decision to dismiss non-Kuwaiti public servants. The cabinet has decided to replace 1000 Kuwaitis, who resign, and 400 by Kuwaitis.

According to a Kuwaiti daily, the government's decision to dismiss 15 per cent of the non-Kuwaiti public servants has been suspended for humanitarian reasons.

Arab employees who display above average work performance will remain on their jobs as long as they maintain a high work standard and they will receive promotions commensurate with their performance.

Contacted

The Civil Service Commission has contacted ministries and other government establishments about the number of employees who have resigned or who will reach retirement age this year. These employees will be replaced with Kuwaitis.

The council is making a study on work opportunities for Kuwaitis, who hold intermediate school certificates. The ministers plan to appoint a limited number of them as public servants, while others will be sent to the Public Authority for Training and Applied Education, to train them for jobs needed by the government.

Three ministries have discontinued the appointment of citizens with intermediate certificates, sources said.

Coup bid foiled

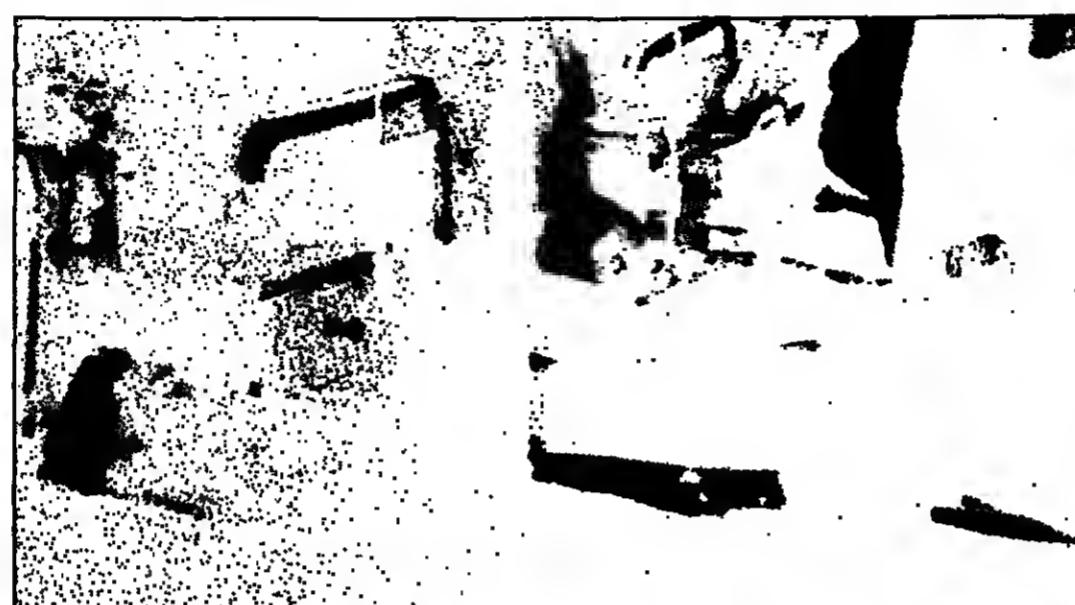
PANAMA CITY, March 16, (Reuter): Panama's strongman was reported to have crushed a military coup today but new anti-government protests erupted, paralysing the business district and blocking the entrance to a US Air Force base.

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Iraq bombs seven Iranian cities

Fierce missile duel continues



(Reuters wirephoto)

Iraqi children, injured in Iranian shelling, being treated in a hospital.

— the third in the region staged by Iran in four days.

An Iraqi military spokesman said Iraqi planes caused extensive damage to Tabriz and Rizayeh in northern Iran and Kermanshah in the west.

Iraq says it has fired 22 missiles into the Iranian capital since a two-day truce in the so-called "war of the cities" broke down late Sunday. Iran has reported launching seven into Baghdad.

Neither side has given an overall casualty count.

Iraq said it launched a new ground operation in the northern Iraqi province of Sulaymaniyah to a US Air Force base.

The Iranian news agency reported that an Iraqi warplane was shot down by anti-aircraft gunners during a bombing raid on western Iran. Iraq denied the report, saying all its planes had returned safely.

Iraq's news agency said jet fighters bombed the northern Iraqi oil city of Kirkuk and other cities, "inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy." It said the jet fighters also shot 16 air-to-ground missiles into Kirkuk, an important Iraqi oil centre.

The Iraqi agency reported that warplanes raided a "large maritime target," a reference to

Iranian warships in the Persian Gulf.

He said other aircraft destroyed an anti-aircraft missile system in Tabriz.

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INTERNATIONAL

Gorbachev proposes steps to cut tensions in Mediterranean

BELGRADE, March 16. (Reuter): Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev today announced proposals to reduce tensions in the Mediterranean, which he described as "one of the most explosive regions in the world."

Addressing the Yugoslav Parliament on the third day of an official visit to Belgrade, Gorbachev also acknowledged that "unfounded accusations" by Josef Stalin against Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito in 1948 had inflicted great damage.

Concerns

Gorbachev, the first Soviet leader to address the Belgrade Assembly, pointed his remarks at Yugoslav concerns, notably accusing Nato of seeking to build up arms on its southern flank to compensate for the treaty to scrap medium-range missiles.

"Today the Mediterranean is one of the most explosive regions of the world, an intricate knot of conflicting interests abounding in huge military arsenals which are continuing to grow," Gorbachev said.

He said he wanted to supplement previous Soviet ideas for reducing military tensions in the area with three proposals:

- The number of Soviet and US ships and the naval potential of the two countries should be frozen from July 1 this year and ceilings set on their levels thereafter.

- The Soviet Union and the United States could give each other advance warning on any movements of warships and naval exercises, and could invite observers to the manoeuvres.

- Mediterranean and other interested countries could draft measures to ensure the security of intensive shipping, especially

in international straits," with full Soviet support.

Moscow said last year it would withdraw its naval forces from the Mediterranean if the United States did the same, but the proposal brought no positive response from Washington. Gorbachev said the offer was still valid.

"For us the Mediterranean is no remote, out-of-the-way area," he said.

"It is close to our southern borders and is crossed by the only sea route linking our southern ports with the world's oceans.

Naturally we are interested in routes of peace rather than those of war passing here."

Gorbachev began his 45-minute speech by paying tribute to Tito's partisans who liberated Belgrade alongside Soviet troops during World War Two, and said the "militant brotherhood" between the two countries had been sealed in a 1945 treaty.

"Unfortunately soon the good relations between those two countries were obstructed, and the treaty broken off," he said.

Review

Turning to arms control, Gorbachev said a Nato summit in Brussels earlier this month to review strategy after the signing of the superpower agreement to scrap intermediate-range nuclear missiles had produced "contradictions, not to say absurdities."

"Some of the North Atlantic leaders obviously tried to link the unlinked," he said.

"They are trying to link approval of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles with a demand to compensate by a build-up of other arms, particularly on Nato's southern flank."

MPs campaign to keep TV out of Parliament

LONDON, March 16. (Reuter): Nine members of Parliament renewed efforts to prevent televising proceedings of the House of Commons after unprecedented scenes of uproar during the government's budget.

Parliament voted last month to allow television cameras to show its proceedings, ending 30 years of wrangling over whether its often stormy debates should be broadcast into drawing rooms across the land.

The vote was successful despite the opposition of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and televising is due to start this autumn.

An attempt to have the decision reversed was led by Conservative MP Tony Marlow who said: "Many people now realize that the bad behaviour has got worse, and that the presence of TV cameras in the chamber will stimulate even worse conduct."

Marlow and eight other conservatives signed a motion which

said members should be allowed to reconsider after "exhibitionist behaviour" during yesterday's budget speech.

The disruption, which one newspaper said was like a football riot, occurred while Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson outlined the budget.

Proceedings were suspended twice for several minutes when a Scottish National Party MP was expelled for yelling: "It's obscene," and Labour Party legislators chanted: "Shame," as Lawson announced tax cuts for the rich.

Their voices were heard across the land on radio, which has been broadcasting debates in the Commons for more than 10 years.

In an article headlined "shame, shame, indeed," opposition Social Democratic Party leader David Owen wrote in the Times newspaper that the disruption would fuel anxieties about the wisdom of letting television cameras into the house.

26 Tamils and two soldiers killed

Indian troops smash rebel hideouts

COLOMBO, March 16. (Reuter): At least 26 Tamil separatist guerrillas and two soldiers were killed as thousands of Indian troops stormed rebel hideouts in northern Sri Lanka, military sources said today.

They said 5,000 soldiers swept through the jungle during the past four days smashing hideouts and training camps belonging to the powerful Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebel group.

They said a training camp for women guerrillas was among the hide-outs raided by Indian

troops in the Mankulam area and eight women were killed in the clash.

The operation, codenamed Vajra (sharp cutting), was launched last Saturday following stepped up attacks by the Tigers against Sinhalese villages in the Trincomalee district.

Rejected

More than 80 civilians, most of them belonging to the majority Sinhalese community, have been killed in ethnic violence during the past two weeks, the sources said.

Fifty thousand Indian troops have been deployed to hunt down

A Tiger leader in Mankulam, identified only as Kandian, was captured in the operation.

The Tigers group has rejected a peace accord signed by Sri Lanka and India to end ethnic conflict on the island that has killed more than 8,000 people in the past five years.

The Tigers are conducting an armed campaign to set up an independent homeland for the Tamil minority, most of whom live in the North and East of the country.

Meanwhile Indian troops stopped a fast by a 58-year-old woman at Mamangam Hindu temple in Batticaloa today and

and disarm the Tigers, who refused to hand over their arms under the accord.

A senior Sri Lankan minister who flew to New Delhi yesterday is expected to tell Indian authorities that more Sri Lankan troops should be posted in the Trincomalee district to protect the Sinhalese there, government sources said.

Stopped

The woman, Devi Annamma, on the 25th day of her protest, was backing demands by the mothers front, a group whose families have been affected by ethnic violence, for an end to fighting between Indian troops and the Tigers.

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 17-18, 1988

NEWS IN BRIEF

Avalanches

JAMMU, India, March 16. (UPI): Authorities today put at 87 the number of people killed last week in avalanches that swept the Himalayan state of Jammu and Kashmir state.

Officials said 61 people died in avalanches that hit two mountain villages on Saturday night in the northern state's Ladakh region, 160 miles (260 km) northwest of Jammu, the winter capital of the state.

The avalanches swept away three dozen homes and came after blizzards that dumped huge amounts of snow on ridges above the villages. The accumulated snow was loosened by subsequent rainfall.

Officials said rain and snow were also responsible for deaths in other areas of the state.

Ship fire

NEW YORK, March 16. (Reuter): A cruise liner with 707 people aboard was dead in the water in the gulf of Mexico after reporting a fire in the engine room, the US coast guard said.

The 465-foot (142-metre) Scandinavian Star sent an emergency message at 1:17 am (0167 GMT) reporting the fire and asking for nearby vessels to be ready to evacuate it if necessary. Lieutenant Jim Dale said by telephone from the Coast Guard's Miami operations centre.

Unofficial march

BUDAPEST, March 16. (Reuter): More than 10,000 people, chanting "democracy", marched through Budapest in Communist Hungary's largest independent demonstration since the anti-Communist uprising of 1956.

They paraded in the capital yesterday, waving banners and applauding calls before parliament for reform and national independence.

"It shows that the opposition is getting stronger," one seasoned Western observer told Reuters.

Hunger strike

NEW DELHI, March 16. (UPI): Sixteen Tibetan refugees and an Indian supporter will go on a "fast unto death" to press for the release of Tibetans detained in anti-Chinese protests in Lhasa and a UN probe into casualties and arrests, it was announced today.

Lhasa Tsering, president of the Tibetan Youth Congress, an exile group demanding an end to Chinese rule of Tibet, said the hunger strike would begin tomorrow morning in front of the UN Information Centre in New Delhi.

Strip show draws union members

LONDON, March 16. (Reuter): A union meeting of construction workers in northwest England attracted five times the normal attendance when members heard it was going to finish with a show by two female strippers.

But the meeting, in a night club at Dinstington, provoked criticism from a rival branch of the union of construction, Allied Trades and Technicians yesterday.

The trade union movement stands for equal opportunities yet here we have one branch using gutter tactics to attract people to meetings," Willy Whalen, Secretary of the Union's neighbouring Carisbrooke branch.

He called the show "a disgraceful exploitation of women."

De Mita named

ROME, March 16. (Reuter): President Francesco Cossiga asked Christian Democrat leader Ciriaco De Mita today to try to form Italy's 48th government since World War Two, presidential officials announced.

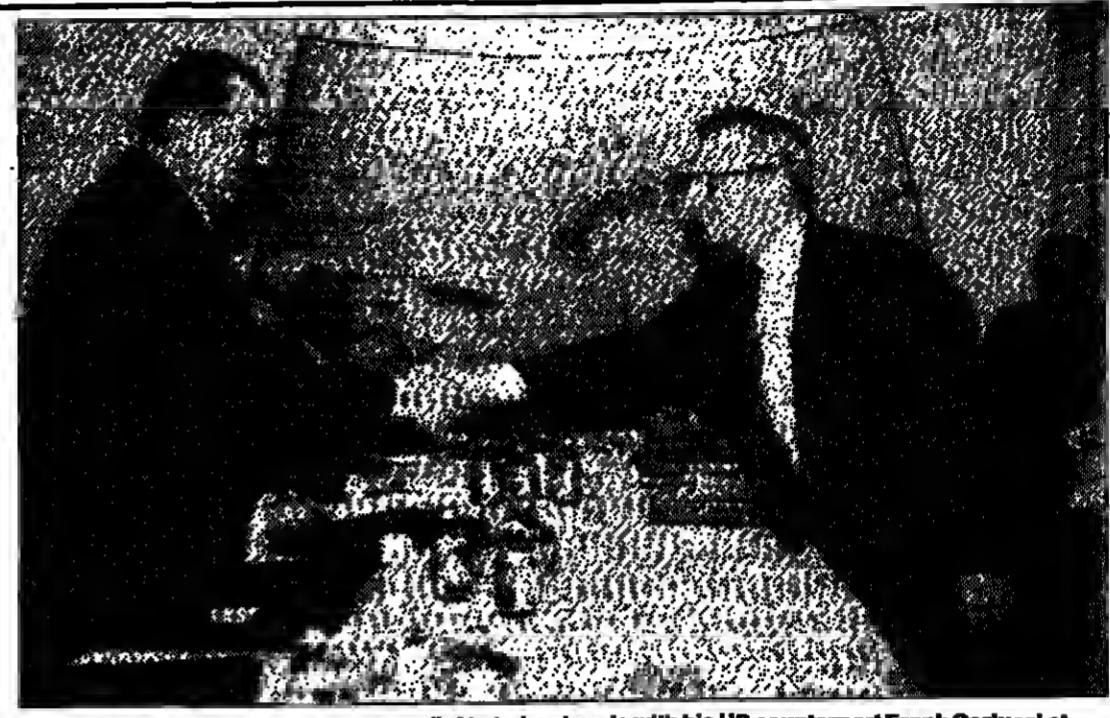
In Loving Memory Of

Victor George Shiber

(Expired on 13.12.1987)

There will be a Requiem Mass for the soul of VICTOR on Saturday 19.3.1988 at 5.00 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral (back entrance).

Offered by his sorrowful wife, relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.



Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov (left) shakes hands with his US counterpart Frank Carlucci at the start of their talks at the US embassy in Bern. (Reuter wirephoto)

Shoot-Aquino order recorded on tape, court told

MANILA, March 16. (Reuter):

A lieutenant was recorded on tape ordering his soldiers to shoot Benigno Aquino just before the Philippine opposition leader was assassinated in 1983, a Japanese sound expert testified today.

Matsumi Suzuki, who analysed video and audio tapes made by journalists at the time of the murder, identified Air Force Lieutenant Jesus Castro as the officer who shouted "pusila" (shoot) moments before the fatal shot rang out.

Castro is among 34 soldiers and three civilians on trial in a Manila court for the murder of President Corazon Aquino's husband, who was shot on August 21, 1983, as he returned from US exile. The 37 deny the charges.

None of the tapes made by journalists who were with Aquino showed the actual shooting but they captured sounds of gunfire, footsteps and the frantic voices of soldiers moments before Aquino was shot in the head.

Defence lawyers tried to stop Suzuki from testifying, saying no Philippine court had ever allowed evidence based on analysis of sounds caught on the tape and that US courts spurned similar testimony. The court threw out the objections.

Suzuki said he used a spec-

trogram and other equipment to analyse the sounds on tape and identify the voices by comparing them with voice recordings made by soldiers in an inquiry after the murder.

Suzuki, President of the Japan Acoustic Laboratory, gave testimony suggesting the military tried to cover up its role in the killing and confuse investigators by saying Aquino was killed with a 357 calibre Magnum revolver. He said the sound of gunshots on tape showed the weapon was a .45 calibre pistol.

Castro beaded the security team that escorted Aquino from his plane on his arrival at Manila airport.

Aquino's killing led to the overthrow of President Marcos in a civilian-backed Army revolt

in a civilian-backed Army revolt

two years later. Marcos said the assassin was alleged communist Rolando Galman, whom soldiers immediately killed after Aquino was shot.

Suzuki identified three other soldiers — sergeants Arnulfo De Mesa and Claro Lat and constable Maria Lazaga — as having said, in the main Philippines dialect Tagalog, before Aquino was shot: "eto na, eto na" (he's coming, he's coming), and "ako na, ako na" (I'll do it, I'll do it).

Then came the shout: "Pusila."

Chief prosecutor Raul Gonzales said the shout "can have no other meaning" except that it was "the order" to shoot Aquino.

Suzuki's analysis of footstep sounds also showed Aquino was killed with a handgun, along with other evidence based on analysis of sounds caught on the tape and that US courts spurned similar testimony. The court threw out the objections.

Suzuki said he used a spec-

Anderson starts fourth year in captivity

BEIRUT, March 16. (AP): Two Lebanese newspapers today published letters addressed to kidnapped American journalist Terry Anderson and his captors on the third anniversary of his abduction in West Beirut.

The independent Al Nahar and the Sunni Muslim Al Liwa also published a picture of Anderson's 2-year-old daughter Sulom, who was born after his March 16, 1985, abduction by Islamic Jihad.

"Here is Sulome, our daughter, wishing you a safe return home, daddy," said a letter to Anderson from Madeleine Sulome's mother.

"She often asks about you. Wondering which of all the planes she is seeing will be the one bringing daddy home ...," the letter said.

"Beirut is heaven on earth for her because you are there. Now she is beginning to understand that things will change and one day we will be together to never separate again," the letter to Anderson read.

Anderson, 40, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, has two daughters, Sulome and Gabrielle, 10. His father and elder brother died while he was in captivity. He is the longest-held of 22 foreign hostages in Lebanon.

In a letter to the kidnappers, the US-based Journalists Committee to Free Terry Anderson pleaded with Islamic Jihad to "release him in the name of humanity."

"It was three years ago today that Terry was taken hostage. For three years he has not seen his family, not been able to talk with us, and not been able to be our brother, son, father and friend," the letter said.

Bush and Simon win

Illinois vote leaves Democrats confused

CHICAGO, March 16. (AP):

The Democrats' search for a presidential front-runner was stalled yesterday by the bone-crushing of Sen. Paul Simon, vice over Jesse Jackson in the Illinois primary. Vice-President won easily in the Republican contest, although he still had to contend with a battered but dogged Sen. Bob Dole.

While Bush clinched two-thirds of the delegates needed for his nomination at this summer's national convention, the Democrats were far from locking up anything. The race for a nominating majority of delegates was tied between Jackson and Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

There was relatively little campaign activity today, after five frantic weeks in which nearly half the delegates to the national conventions were chosen.

The next major battleground for the Democrats was the neighbouring state of Michigan, which holds party caucuses on March 26.

For the Republicans, the next big test was northeastern Connecticut, with a primary on March 29. That should produce another big win for Bush, whose father represented the state in the US Senate.

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KUWAIT

Arab World Institute in Paris

Projecting true Arab image

By Jadranka Porter

TILL two years ago Western Europe had a grossly distorted image of the Arab world. This began changing because of the greater accessibility to factual knowledge on the Arab countries their wise policies and a better comprehension of the Arab problems by Europe's media, according to Paul Carton, the president of the Arab World Institute in Paris, currently visiting Kuwait.

The institute itself is expected to boost efforts toward better understanding not only between the Arab and European governments but between their peoples, said Carton.

13-year gap

He is on a Gulf tour that will also take him to the UAE with a mission to explain the impact of the institute's activities on the French public. In Kuwait, Carton was received by HH the Amir.

New clinics planned

DRAHMAD Rajae Al Jindi, the Director General of the Kuwait Islamic Medicine Centre, said the centre is considering the establishment of new clinics for specialised treatment.

In an interview with Seyassah newspaper, Dr Al Jindi said the centre treated 24,000 patients last year, 90 per cent of whom required continuing treatment for diseases such as asthma and diabetes.

He added that the centre had recently expanded its production of medicines, which were made from raw materials imported from Arab countries. The director explained that the centre was also involved in research activities and tests on drugs made primarily from herbs.

The centre offered treatment for only six common diseases when it opened about a year ago, he said, adding that this number has now reached 13. Dr Jindi said the main types of treatment were for allergy-related conditions such as asthma and bronchitis.

He emphasised that the centre's services were available to neighbouring Arab and Muslim countries at reduced charges because of the availability of the medicinal substances used.

Fined KD500 each for fraud

KUWAIT'S Court of Misdeavour fined four men KD500 each for commercial fraud.

The court found that the four men, one of whom was a pharmacist, had been selling imitation perfume at prices of the original item and misleading customers.

The men's plea of not guilty was changed during the course of the courtroom proceedings to a guilty plea.



Paul Carton

tion featuring the history of an Arab town, in this case Sanaa, has been held in the gallery. The exhibition will also tour some of the large cities in France.

The institute aims to promote Arab artists enabling them to present their work in its contemporary arts gallery. An exhibi-

tion was a 13-year gap — possibly reflecting the ebb and flow in the Euro-Arab relations — between the time when the idea of the institute germinated and when it was opened last November.

In the first few months of its existence the institute has turned into a hub of intellectual activity projecting topics linked to Arab culture, exhibiting Arab and Islamic artefacts and promoting Arab music.

Supervising

The nine-storey institute houses a museum which has a collection of 600 objets d'art on display mainly belonging to the Louvre and the Museum of Oceanic and African Arts. Carton hopes that the Arab countries will make their own contributions to the collection.

The institute aims to promote Arab artists enabling them to present their work in its contemporary arts gallery. An exhibi-

the Arab world in French cultural and intellectual life, held recently in the institute's auditorium, raised a lot of interest among the French Arabists, media, musicologists and university professors. The event included a display of Arab national dress and performances of Arab music and dances.

The institute plays an important role in supervising the Arab cinema week and in producing studies and editing books on the Arab cinema.

Searcher

But above all it is a treasure house of information. It has got a library which can seat 150 people and which has been extensively used, said Carton. Plans are underway to increase the current number of 40,000 books to the library's full capacity of 100,000.

An audio-visual facility at the institute provides information accompanied by photographs on a variety of topics dealing with

the Arab world, with a robot searcher capable of fetching the required information. The Wall of the Arab Television is another facility with 24 screens running the TV programmes produced by TV stations in Arab countries.

The documentation centre contains 32 files on each country with wide-ranging information including that from press-cuttings. While the parents are studying or taking part in discussions the children can play and learn in the institute's classrooms supervised by three teachers.

The running of the institute is divided between France and the Arab countries. An equal number of French and Arab employers form its 185 strong staff but the tendency is to employ more Arabs, said Carton. France bears more than half of the building cost and is contributing some 60 per cent to the institute's annual budget.

Students protest new academic charter

KUWAIT University Students Union held a protest meeting at the Faculty of Science against the new academic charter. The chairman of the union Mohammed Al Dallal, speaking at the meeting, said things would be unstable at the university until the administration reconsidered the charter, which is unfair to students.

Al Dallal said the students had protested several times against the charter, but the university ignored their protests and insisted on implementing the charter.

The students attending the meeting sent a cable to the Education Minister Anwar Aj Nouri stating their objections to the application of the charter.

Cultural season

KUWAIT'S Sociologists Association will have its ninth cultural season from March 20 to April 10, according to a local newspaper.

There will be a number of lectures and seminars on the social aspects of Kuwait's history.

Syria rejects new US Mideast peace plan

SYRIAN Ambassador to Kuwait Issa Darwish was quoted yesterday as affirming that his country has rejected the US plan on solving the Middle East crisis, saying that it does not include a comprehensive just solution, and only preserves Israel's interests.

Darwish told a Kuwaiti newspaper that the new US initiative considers the Palestinians as refugees and ignores their right to self-determination and freedom on their own lands.

He added that it also ignores that the PLO is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinians and the unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands, including Jerusalem.

Regarding an international peace conference, Darwish said that the US proposal which was tabled by US Secretary of State George Shultz during his recent tour in the Mideast region gave the conference a marginal role.

The US recent initiative bypasses the core of the Middle

East problem namely the Palestinian cause and the Palestinians' self-determination, he said.

On the Palestinian uprising, the ambassador called for supporting the more than three-month-old uprising by all means.

Responding to a question on his country's relations with the PLO, the Syrian ambassador said that a number of contacts have been made with the organisation's leadership and exchanges of opinions were made to serve their joint struggle.

Rqobah meets PIC officials

MINISTER of Electricity and Water Dr Homoud Al Rqobah yesterday received in his office the chairman of the board of directors of the Petrochemical Industries Company, Adnan Yousif Al Mir and members of the board.

They discussed ways and means to find a solution to several related issues.

Sudanese leader urges Arabs to unify stand

SUDANESE President Ahmed Al Merghani has emphasised the importance of implementing "all Arab charters and agreements" to achieve Arab solidarity and to counter external challenges.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published yesterday, Al Merghani called on Arab leaders and peoples to extend support to the popular uprising, currently raging in the occupied Arab territories, adding, an urgent Arab summit conference should be convened towards this end.

Calling on the two Gulf belligerents, Iraq and Iran, to put an end to their protracted conflict, the Sudanese head of state urged Arab countries to unify their stances and back Iraq, which responded to all peace calls, including Security Council resolution 598.

Rapprochement

He said restoring security in the Arab Gulf region and putting an end to the bloodshed between the two neighbouring Muslim countries required implementation of all "Arab charters" and agreements.

Al Merghani, currently on a ten-day tour that includes Libya, Malta and Morocco, said as Arab solidarity depends on rapprochement between Arab states, "we insist on restoring Egyptian-Libyan relations," adding he will discuss the matter with Libyan leaders in a bid to fulfil that goal.

The Sudanese official said he expects the Sudanese-Egyptian "fraternity charter" to be signed next month and noted that Egyptian Premier Atif Sidki is scheduled to pay a visit to Khar-

toum this coming April.

On his country's relations with Kuwait, Al Merghani spoke highly of Kuwait's continued assistance and support to Sudan.

He said Kuwaiti aid to Sudan

during years of drought and desertification, and assistance to development schemes in south Sudan "constitute enough proof of greatness of Kuwait" which works toward verification of Arab and Islamic identity.

Extending best wishes and regards to HH the Amir of Kuwait, HH the Crown Prince and the Kuwaiti government, Al Merghani asserted that Sudan "backs boundlessly, the Kuwaiti people in face of threats and challenges" aimed at destroying the Arab identity in the Arabian Gulf.

On Sudanese-Ethiopian relations, Al Merghani said Sudan is not in enmity with Ethiopia, noting that diplomatic drives are currently underway to improve relations between the two countries.

He said his country is keen on preserving its sovereignty and dignity, and emphasised that Sudan will not accept "bargaining."

Khartoum accuses Addis Ababa of backing the insurgents' movement in South Sudan, while Addis Ababa says Khartoum allows Eritrean fighters to launch attacks against Ethiopian Army outposts from Sudanese territories.

Al Merghani said the South

Sudan problem can be solved internally and without foreign interference, indicating that the Sudanese Army, operating in the south, "is in full control."

On the economic crisis in Sudan, he said the government has taken necessary measures to correct the situation in the country.

Kuwait's coastal waters free from pollution

AT a recent seminar held by Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research hydrology team, said Kuwait was one of the few countries that had planned for its coastal development. He added that the plans had been revised from time to time to keep up with changes covering coastal installations, power stations, afforestation areas, water desalination and entertainment areas.

He added that Kisr bad created a mathematical formula for determining coastal bottom sediment, which had proved important in designating suitable places for the construction of ports and entertainment areas.

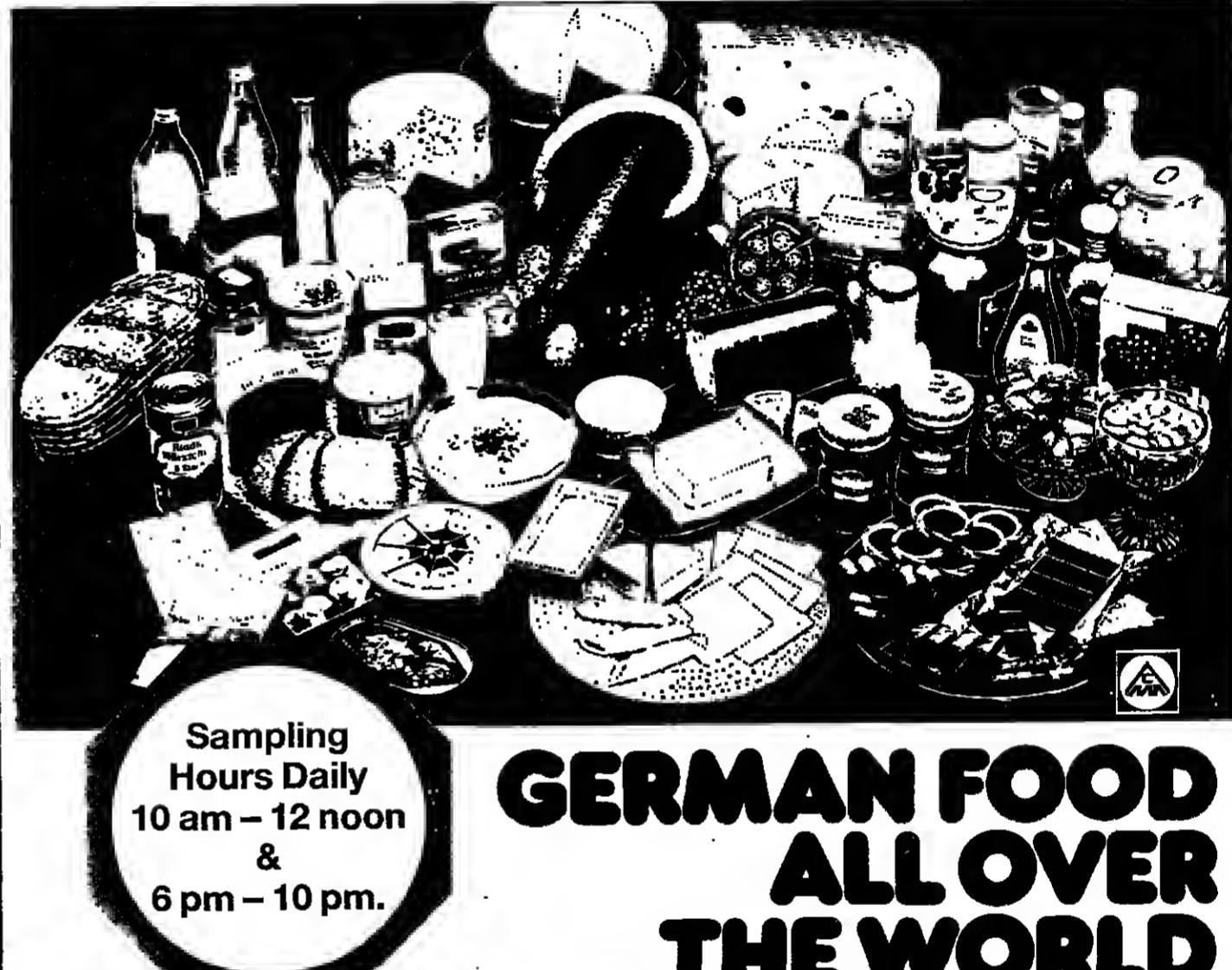
A general plea was made to the public to keep Kuwait's coastal area clean so the country could maintain its pollution-free waters.

Filling stations employees

EMPLOYEES of petrol filling stations of the Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) will be made redundant within a few years, according to a local newspaper.

It said KNPC was planning to convert all the filling stations into self-service ones, and eight will be converted each year.

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- Must be able to handle project correspondence with customers/consultants independently.
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- Should have valid and transferable Kuwaiti Residence.
- Must be able to communicate well in English. Knowledge of Arabic is an advantage.

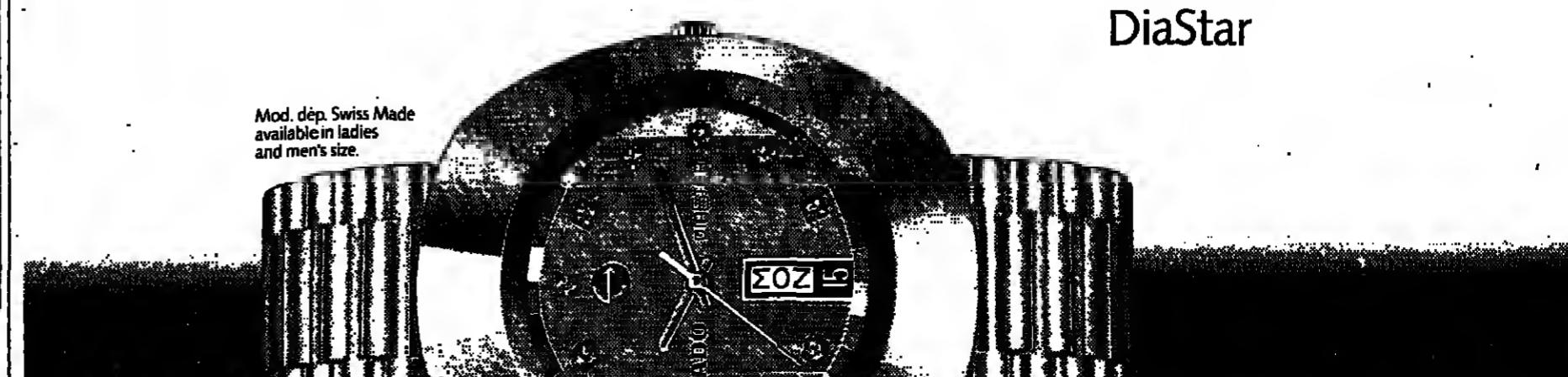
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EVENTS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 17-18, 1988

A good, solid meal



couples looking for an economical night out. Even with all the competition it faces today, Caesar's is still able to fill its tables night after night. So who can blame them for being conservative when they have obviously hit upon a very successful formula?

The menu offers a choice of either Western dishes — steaks, salads and sizzlers or a wide range of American-style "Chinese" food, averaging around KD1.500 a dish. The style of cooking bears little relation to real Chinese food but, being rather bland in flavour, it appeals to people who want a solid, filling meal without rich, exotic sauces. It's almost Chinese-style nursery food. Portions are large and your waiter will gladly parcel up any left-overs for you to take away. As similar vegetables are used in practically every dish, there is insufficient contrast in flavour and texture, though.

Mixture

We started our meal with glasses of appetizing fresh lemon juice. Our starter — mixed special spring rolls — was a filling dish of prawns, chicken and vegetables inside a rather heavy dough case. The four main course dishes we ordered included chicken with cashew nuts — tender strips of chicken breast cooked with a generous helping of roasted cashews, green pepper, cabbage, beans/onions and peas. The Beef Chow Mein contained the same vegetable mixture with the addition of carrots and

soggy lettuce. The rather tough beef was not of the best quality, but the noodles were tasty. The vegetable fried rice contained the same carrots, cabbage, peas, beans, and onion mixture. For a prawn dish we chose the exotic-sounding "Cambodian Enco" which comprised six giant prawns coated in a thick, doughy batter and served in a delicate sauce of tomato and coconut milk.

The dessert menu was as limited as it is in most Chinese restaurants and, in fact, we finished the meal with Koufli — Indian ice-cream made from thick cream, pistachios and almonds. Caesar's do an excellent version of it and it's well worth trying if you are still hungry after the main course.

Including Turkish coffee the total bill came to KD9.400 including 10% service, which was good value for money, as we had enough food left over to take away for a delicious meal the next day. The service was quick and courteous and the atmosphere warm and unpretentious. Dimly lit, with tables placed close together, Caesar's has a friendly, family feeling which makes it the kind of place the solitary diner can eat without feeling lonely.

Restaurant: Caesar's
Type: American-style Chinese
Meal: Three course
Price: KD9.400 (for two)
Star rating (out of five):
Food: ★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★
Service: ★★★★
Value for money: ★★★★★



Kevin Eubanks: guitarist

American trio to hold jazz concert

A WELL-KNOWN American jazz band presents a concert of contemporary jazz in Kuwait next week.

The Kevin Eubanks Trio, which is currently touring the world, arrives in Kuwait from India early next week to perform at the Kuwait University Sports Stadium Shuaikh.

The trio — guitar, bass, drums, performs an energized brand of contemporary jazz featuring fast-paced virtuoso playing. Some works in the Bebop, straight-ahead jazz tradition while others incorporate elements of rock and funk. Many are Kevin Eubank's own compositions.

Leonard Feature of the Los Angeles Times described Eubanks as "one of the two most important additions ... today's guitar scene."

Eubanks, who recently turned 30, rose to fame performing with Art Blakey, McCoy Tyner and Slide Hampton. In addition to Eubanks who plays both acoustic and electric guitars, the group consists of Rael Wesley Grand on bass and Eugene Jackson on drums, plus a sound technician and road manager.

Besides concerts, Eubanks can also conduct workshops, part talks and part demonstration, on contemporary music and how it relates to the jazz.

tradition, particularly from a guitar perspective. He can also do a history of jazz guitar, showing a variety of styles performed on this instrument. Eubanks has a degree in composition from the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

In Kuwait the Trio will play

selections from The Heat of Hell (Terry Lewis and James Harris III); Palace of the Seven Jewels (Onaje Allan Gumbs); First Thing; First (George Benson); Nardis (Miles Davis); Sojourn (Patrice Rushen); That's What Friends Are For (Burt Bacharach); Moments Aren't Moments (Stevie Wonder); Wave (Carlos Jobim); Relazin' at Camarillo (Charles Parker) and Thick Bag (Wes Montgomery).

Eubanks will also perform his own compositions including Smile, Third Interior, Face to Face, Essence, A Silent Waltz and Ebony Sunrise.

The concert is being held jointly under the auspices of the Artistic Activity Administration of Kuwait University and the Cultural Office of the American Embassy. It will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 7.30 pm, at the Kuwait University Sports Stadium, Shuaikh Campus. All are welcome. No admission fee, no reserved seats.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus	Al Jahra
Closed	Zaman Hatem Zahran (Arabic)
Al Salimiya	Ahmad Drive-In
Arabic play	Maut Samira (Arabic)
Al Hamra	FRIDAY
Tough Guys	Al Jahra
Starring: Kirk Douglas, Burt Lancaster	Hot Shots
Drive-In	Shabab Fi Al Jaheem (Arabic)
Shabab Fi Al Jaheem (Arabic)	Starring: Mamdouh Abdul Alim, Mirvat Ameen
Starring: Hemant Birje, Sriradha Krishna	Sulabikhat
Al Fahheel	No Dead Heroes
Punar Milan (Bengali)	Namal Halal (Hindi)
Al Jileeb	Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Smita Patil
Mirch Masala (Hindi)	Fahheel Open-Air
Starring: Smita Patil, Nasiruddin Shah	Dilbir Tangewali (Hindi)
Granda	Starring: Hemant Birje, Sriradha Krishna
Tarzan and His Mate	Al Fahheel
Sulabikhat	Punar Milan (Bengali)
Oridathu (Malayalam)	Al Jileeb

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.35 am
Zuhra	11.56
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	5.58
Isha	7.14
FRIDAY	
Fajr	4.34 am
Friday Prayer	11.56
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	5.59
Isha	7.15

SULTAN GALLERY

An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yaseen Bhaini will be held at the gallery, Al Soor St., from March 28. It will be open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm.

MUSIC

Rock 'n' Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas, featuring music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin and others. It will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel at 8 pm on March 20, 21, 22, 23 and at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For details call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745388.

Musical Nite
Funkada, a local music group, will hold Rang Trang, a musical nite, on March 24, 7.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Hall. Entrance is by invitation only. Contact the organisers for details.

Jazz Concert
The American jazz band, the Kevin Eubanks Trio, will give a concert at the Kuwait University Sports Stadium Shuaikh, on Tuesday, March 22, at 7.30 pm. The public is invited. No admission fee, no reserved seats.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players

Kuwait players present "Wait Until Dark," a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Condon, starring Jennifer Garland and Derek Hicks. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa, at 8 pm on March 28, 29, 30, 31. For reservations phone 5657749; 5325268.

Kuwait Little Theatre

Tonight is the last performance of KLT's production of the Vicar of Wakefield, an amusing tale by Oliver Goldsmith. Gala opening at 8.15 pm tonight and on Thursday. For reservations ring 3983724.

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March 31 is the last date for submitting completed applications for the Palarong Filipino (mini-Olympics). Teams failing to submit entries will not be allowed to participate. Final sports meeting to discuss arrangement of games will be held at 2 pm on April 8 at the Philippines Embassy. The games will be held from May 16. For further details contact Bong Melencio — 4877793.

SPORTS

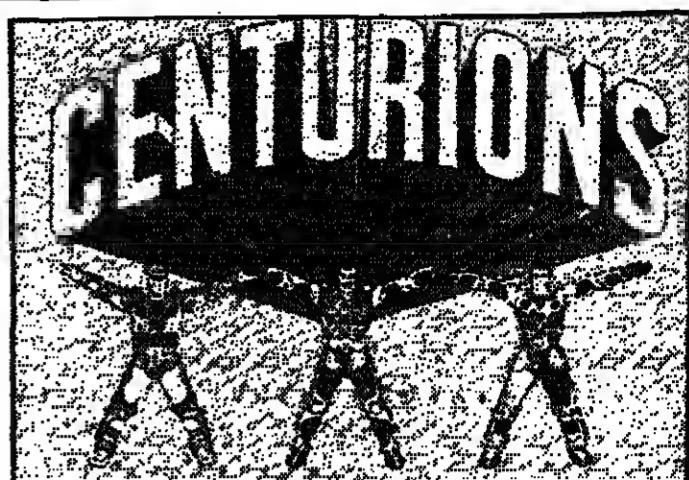
Filipino hold Mini-Olympics

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Bridge Club

Sheraton Bridge Club individual tournament will be held at 4 pm on Friday.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



Centurions return with action for children, tonight on KTV 2.

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons

10.00 Fi Ribah Tarbiya: an educational programme presented by Jassim Al Ghareeb.

11.00 Songs

11.30 Islam wal Insaan: religious programme, hosted by Dr Abdul Suhoor Al Shahin.

12.00 Ma Da'a Wa Anhama Min Akhbar Jahan: Arabic serial, starring Sheza Salem, Khalil Rifai, Mohammad Hussain Abdul Rahim.

1.00 News Summary

1.20 World News via Satellite

2.00 Liqa Al Khamis: roundup of local events

3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'aith: cartoons

4.00 News Summary

4.15 The Saint: Roger Moore plays the debonair detective, Simon Templar.

5.25 Maktabat Ala Wa Hina: children's programme

6.00 Alwan: presented by Rola Farah

7.00 News Summary

7.05 Show Jumping, presented by Ali Hamdi

7.30 Al Bahath an Al Saadah: Arabic serial. Starring: Samir Ghannam, Hassan Mustafa, Suad Nasar, Comedy.

8.30 With Islam: hosted by Dr Khalid Al Madhkour

9.00 News in Arabic

10.00 From People's Art

10.30 Sikkat Nidamah: Arabic feature film. Starring Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Yusra, Najah Al Maiji, Ghada Al Sham'a.

12.00 Late Night Variety Show: hosted by Amina Al Sharrah.

1.30 News Summary

1.35 World News via Satellite

2.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

9.00 Holy Quran

9.30 Hikayat Min Al Alam: Stories from around the world

10.00 News Summary

10.05 World News via Satellite

10.20 Children's Magazine: a programme for young viewers.

11.00 Prophet's (PBHU) Saying: religious programme, presented by Dr Ahmad Abdulla Noor

11.15 Friday Prayer

12.15 Min Wah Al Ayat Al Bayanati: religious serial

1.00 News Summary

1.20 World News via Satellite

2.00 INTERVAL

2.30 Preview of next week's programme on KTV

3.15 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi

4.00 Hub Min Al Sama'a: Arabic feature film. Starring: Najat Ali, Mohammad Ameen, Hussein Riyad, Ilham Hussein

7.00 News Summary

7.15 Kul al Funoon: hosted by Rasha Magdi

8.00 Weekly Seminar: a talk show on topical events in Kuwait

9.00 News in Arabic

10.00 Wrestling

10.45 Al Khurooj An Al Ma'louf: part one of local play starring Hayat Al Fahad, Sulaiman Yasseen, Ahmad Saleh. Directed by 'Abdul Kader Al Muslim.

9.30 Weekend: local programme

10.00 Open All Hours: Ronnie Barker stars in this British comedy.

10.30 Wise Guy: Sonny's cover is blown when his nephew comes to town.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Football Tournament between UAE & Oman.

6.00 Centurions: cartoons

6.30 The Mickey Mouse club: a weekly show for young viewers.

7.00 Rags to Riches: "Vegas Rock." In this episode the girls follow Foley to Las Vegas.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Chipperfields Circus

9.05 Spencer for Hire: Tonight, Spenser is pursued by gangsters after taking up the case of an author who is being blackmailed.

9.30 Bill Cosby Show: "War Stories."

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow — Chinese proverb.

Rich and poor help uprising

By Rana Sabbagh

AMMAN, (Reuter): From bankers to bus-drivers, people in Jordan are reaching into their pockets to help Palestinians fighting Israeli occupation on their doorstep.

A committee raising funds to sustain a three-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has collected more than \$1.5 million since it was set up in January, treasurer Mamdouh Al Abbadi said.

Donors range from the chairman of Jordan's biggest bank to labourers at the foot of the pay-scale, Abbadi said.

Arab Bank chairman Abdul Majid Shoman, heading the committee of professional, trade and labour groups, has contributed about \$375,000, including \$75,000 from his personal account, Abbadi said.

Diplomats say Jordan and the PLO have in the past used financial means to compete for influence in the West Bank.

They also cooperate within a Joint Steadfastness Fund, established in 1978 by the Arab League, which last week allocated \$32 million to the occupied areas, though it has in hand only \$19 million from Saudi Arabia.

Occupied Territories Minister Marwan Doudin told Reuters the disparity showed how urgently West Bank health, social, housing and educational projects needed funds.

"We welcome any kind of aid," he said. "The money should go to sectors, not individuals ... and we should get together with the fund-raising committee and the zakat to avoid duplication."

The committee plans to give \$3,000 to each bereaved family and \$600 to those injured by gun-

fire or heating. It has also decided to give \$190,000 to eight hospitals in the West Bank and Gaza and to buy six ambulances.

Companies, banks and professional groups have sponsored austerity launches or asked employees to give a day's salary.

Jordan's government has exempted all donations from tax. It wants to channel public money and donations through the zakat (alms) fund of the Religious Affairs Ministry.

Distributed

The ministry says the fund has distributed about \$90,000 in monthly compensation payments to families of people killed in the occupied territories with each family getting between \$150 and \$225 a month.

The government says the fund is the only legal way to deliver money to the occupied territories.

Israel has said it will stop Palestinians travelling to the West Bank from bringing in more than \$1,000 per person in hard currency. Fund-raising committee sources said money could be smuggled in or sent through informal channels without interference from Jordan or the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

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Democratisation in Asia

A new political relationship likely

By Takashi Oka

TAIPEI, Taiwan: With Rob Tae Woo's accession to South Korea's Presidency, East Asia has three leaders who seem remarkably similar in their informality, accessibility, and lack of affection: Roh, President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, and Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita of Japan.

South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan share another characteristic: Their economies are dynamic, with hefty trade surpluses, especially with the United States. Their people are literate, hard-working, and hospitable to technical change.

Could these three lands come together in an East Asian version of the European Economic Community (EEC)?

Not in any formal sense, most political analysts would say. In the first place, historical memories are still too bitter: until Japan's defeat in World War II, both Korea and Taiwan were Japanese colonies.

Secondly, both are parts of divided countries. Communist North Korea has been South Korea's implacable enemy. The People's Republic of China considers Taiwan a part of China and would strenuously oppose any arrangement that would tie the island more tightly to South Korea and Japan.

Yet informally, the Taiwanese and South Korean economies already are inextricably linked with Japan's, a linkage likely to become even closer in the future.

Both Taiwan and South Korea rely heavily on Japanese parts for the cars and electronic items they export.

Import

The reverse is also becoming increasingly true. As the yen rises, Japanese makers scouring the region for cheaper parts are depending more and more on South Korean and Taiwanese components for their computers, tape decks, even cars. They are beginning to import finished goods from these countries as well. In time the final buyer may have difficulty knowing exactly how much of his purchase was

Price is justified

SIR: This refers to Shahid Iqbal's letter "Reduce the price" (AT, March 10) in which he demanded a reduction in the price of the Arab Times from 150 fils to 100 fils.

I want to point out that most of the people waste about 500 fils daily on smoking, spend KD 3 per week on video cassettes, but when it comes to buying newspapers they claim they cannot pay 150 fils (900 fils per week) a day to know about the happenings around the world. It is also not true that the Urdu pages cover almost everything otherwise they would have printed the Arab Times in Urdu for the eyes of Mr Iqbal only. I believe one page is more than enough for Urdu and I suggest they use the other page for Hindi because there are many people who cannot read either English or Urdu but they can read Hindi. I am sure they would love to read Firoze Ran-goonwalla's articles which are published in English and Urdu. As most of the Indians and Pakistanis can read English what is the necessity for Urdu pages?

Arab Times employees work day and night in order to keep their readers satisfied. I think it

is high time we pay more, for I think even 200 fils would not compensate for their efforts and the material published.

All Behbahan, Hawaii,

Remarks clarified

SIR: The news item entitled "Time ripe for Afghan settlement," does not accurately convey the gist of the Pakistani ambassador's remarks made during an interview with the Arab Times.

The interview was held primarily to discuss problems of the Pakistani community in Kuwait.

As the Afghan negotiations were mentioned in passing, it is best to clarify what the ambassador had actually conveyed.

Agreeing that the talks had entered into a crucial stage and emphasising that the return of five million Afghan refugees in safety and honour was a basic objective for Pakistan, the ambassador had underlined the importance of a broad-based interim government in Afghanistan.

Pakistan regarded this as an extremely important element as otherwise civil war and bloodshed were likely to ensue in Afghanistan that would, no doubt, discourage the refugees from returning. In this sense Pakistan wanted to avoid a mess in the future. Pakistan was, therefore, urging that there should be progress towards the establishment of an interim government.

The ambassador also con-

veyed that Pakistan had throughout been flexible in the Afghanistan negotiations rather than on any specific issue.

Syed Iqbal Hussain, Press and Cultural Attaché, Pakistan embassy.

Air-India regrets

SIR: This refers to a letter headlined "Unpardonable offence" written by A.T.Z. Ahmad (AT, March 10).

We assure Mr Ahmad that the intention of the advertisement was only to inform passengers about the flights available on our carrier to the sub-continent from Kuwait. The advertisement did not claim any direct flight to Dhaka and it clearly showed connecting flights to Dhaka by mentioning

two flight numbers.

Air-India is aware of the existing relationship and close cooperation between Bangladesh and India as both nations are active members of SAARC.

We have discontinued the publication of the advertisement and we express our regret over the airline schedule if it has adversely affected the sentiments of any Bangladeshi citizen, whom we hold in high esteem.

G. Tharakan, Customer Relations Manager, Air-India, Kuwait

Pedestrian bridge

SIR: I would like to request the Kuwait government to build a pedestrian bridge on the Airport road, particularly at the intersection opposite the Holiday Inn Hotel. This is a busy road and it has become very dangerous for pedestrians to cross the road. Several accidents, resulting in deaths, have occurred on this road.

Prabhu Mendonca, Safat.

At wrong places

SIR: This refers to recent reports on constructing new pedestrian bridges. The existing bridges are located at wrong places and do not cater to the needs of pedestrians. Not many people use the bridges which are merely ornamental, for example the ones located in Shaah and Isqial Street. The bridges should have been located near the 2nd Ring Road intersection as most bachelors stay in the vicinity of the embassies and cross the street, endangering themselves and the motorists.

There is an urgent need to build a pedestrian crossing opposite the Safat Post Office, otherwise the post office should be shifted to another location.

T. K. Philip

Safat.

Health hazard

SIR: A contractor had built a toilet in an open-area in Jahriya while constructing a residential block. The works has been completed but the toilet has not been removed by the contractor.

The toilet is now being used by labourers and passers-by, posing a health hazard. It has become a nuisance and a source of embarrassment to families living in the area, particularly in buildings overlooking the toilet.

Then open toilet could spread disease.

I urge the authorities to take appropriate action and get rid of this nuisance.

M. A.
(Name and address supplied)

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Hong Kong legislators want boat people barred

By Chris Peterson

HONG KONG, (Reuter): Hong Kong's policy on Vietnamese refugees is coming under pressure from a group of legislators who want to stop the continuing flow of "boat people" from across the South China Sea.

Thirteen years after Saigon fell to the victorious North Vietnamese Army, refugees are still undertaking the hazardous journey by sea, arriving in the British colony at the rate of around 300 a month.

A number of Hong Kong legislative councillors want the colony to change its policy of being a place of first asylum, which they say encourages refugees to come here knowing they will not be sent back to Vietnam without their consent.

Rita Fan, chairman of Hong Kong's legislative council ad hoc committee on refugees, said: "After years of this policy, the problem is still with us, there is no solution in sight."

"We should tell them that they either stay here awaiting repatriation back to Vietnam, or they have a choice of continuing with food and water," she added.

Crowded

According to government figures, 9,700 Vietnamese refugees are crowded into five camps, with arrivals outstripping the relatively small number of departures for resettlement.

Nigel French, the senior civil servant in charge of the government's refugee policy, insists that the question of first asylum is basically a moral issue, not a legal one, and Hong Kong has no plans to change it.

The policy of first asylum is based on humanitarian considerations, coming from international conventions, understandings, and agreements. It is

not based on international law," he told Reuters.

"Since 1982 we have had a policy of putting arrivals into closed camps as a means of deterring more people from coming.

Initially it was reasonably successful, but arrivals have increased again.

"But they are properly looked after, fed and clothed," added French.

Fan and her group see turning back refugees as the only means of solving the colony's problem, although she denied suggestions that to repatriate people forcibly or send them back to sea would mean death or imprisonment.

Negotiate

She said the Hong Kong government should first negotiate the refugees' return with Hanoi.

Meanwhile the refugees continue the long wait, most sitting listlessly behind barbed wire in the closed camps.

Camp officials say most of the recent refugees here, the majority of them from the northern part of Vietnam, have fled the country for economic reasons.

Although at one stage in the 1970s there were 70,000 refugees waiting to be resettled, the problem is more difficult now despite the lower number.

The majority of those being held speak no second language, have no skills and no relatives in a third country who could sponsor their entry.

Hong Kong acts as a natural magnet for Vietnamese refugees because it is one of the few places in the region that does not turn them away.

Britain, which controls Hong Kong's foreign policy, refuses to take more than 20 refugees a month from its colony.

Last month Foreign Office Minister Lord Glenarthur caused an uproar by admitting

Killers turn vigilantes

Fighting fire with fire in Punjab

By Adam Kellher

AMRITSAR, India, (UPI): Santokh Singh, self-confessed killer of more than 50 people and former bomber and robber, relaxed on a chair in a police station, cradling a submachine gun, a revolver protruding from a cartridge belt encircling his belly.

"I shook hands with the police and they gave me shelter to take revenge," explained Singh, a stocky, bearded 29-year-old. "If we can gun down about 200 main killers, we will be able to flush out terrorism in the region."

Singh was confirming what up until now has been only speculation — that officials in India's Punjab state have recruited former Sikhs to fight those still waging a bloody campaign for an independent Sikh nation of "Khalistan."

Singh, who said he decided to cooperate with the police after his brother was tortured and murdered by extremists, admitted playing a role in the killings of at least 25 militants to date.

Wart

Other vigilantes, who asked not to be identified, said they turned on their former compatriots out of disillusion with the fight for "Khalistan."

"This is a war-type situation," said a senior police official on condition of anonymity in acknowledging the existence of the vigilantes.

"In war, I feel sometimes you have to take some decisions which otherwise are morally and ethically incorrect."

The new tactic, he added, was

undertaken with the knowledge of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, which assumed control of Punjab last May, but remains totally frustrated in crushing the extremists by conventional means.

Militants still openly operate from the Golden Temple of Amritsar. Police cannot enter Sikhdom's holiest shrine without reviving memories of the June 1984 Army assault on the shrine that left more than 600 Sikhs dead and led to the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

By using 50 former militants comprising the "Panthic Tiger Force" and the "Khalsa Commando Force," authorities hope to shatter the estimated 300 "hardcore" radicals, blamed for more than 1,500 murders in the past 14 months.

Most Panthic Tiger Force members are veteran cop killers, yet they are warmly accepted by security personnel when they wander through police stations brandishing weapons.

They possess certificates granting them the same powers as paramilitary troops. They are even allowed to steal cars if they return the vehicles within 10 days.

Admits

"The police supply us with money, ammunition and vehicles," said Singh, who admits killing more than 50 civilians and masterminding a bombing campaign in New Delhi while on the other side of the law.

"When we break the law, we tell a higher authority so police do not register the case," he

chuckled. "It is a mutual understanding."

Officially, authorities deny the vigilantes' existence, but endorse the idea of fighting terrorism with terror.

"If you decide as a civilian to fight against an extremist, I think it is proper for us to help you," Amritsar district police chief Mohammad Izhar Alam said, while five vigilantes waited outside his heavily guarded office for an appointment.

"We are trying to find a group of people who are willing to fight the extremists," conceded Alam.

One police official said the vigilantes were "the brainwork of a group of local officials," and began shortly after Rajiv dismissed Punjab's moderate Sikh government in May for failing to tackle the extremists.

The anti-militants'

Top stars absent from commemorative functions

Half-hearted tributes to Kishore, Smita

By Firoze Rangoonwala

WHEN the film people come out in aid of a good cause they often do it in such a twisted way that the purpose gets defeated and the industry gets a bad name. It is a pity that stars do this while ostensibly paying homage to those in their own field who have passed away.

A recent example was the annual "Hope" show dedicated this time to the late Kishore Kumar. Almost every popular hero owes a debt to the singer for achieving public rapport through his magical playback voice. Yet, how many actually

turned up to help the show? Hardly a few. In fact the major complaint against the show was the absence of major stars, while the public had paid fabulous prices to buy the tickets. It is a blessing that they did not create any trouble. They kept expecting the stars to turn up till the very end, as Amitabh had appeared at the climax of the "Hope '86" show. But suddenly the whole thing was over.

The only gesture which showed that the programme was in the memory of Kishore Kumar, was when his widow Leena Chandravarkar, lit the inaugural lamp, and his son Amit Kumar sang his father's

songs. Apart from that there was only one hero who full-heartedly praised Kishore and that was Rajesh Khanna. He had obtained his star-status with the Aradhana songs and at the show he lamented, "It is as if I have lost my voice."

Rajesh also called R D Burman on the stage. Once again, some of the best songs of Rahul as well as that of his late father Sachin Dev Burman had been sung by Kishore. Thus R D's presence was apt. He called up Amit Kumar, saying that despite the cruelty of death anniversary. But Babbar was also not present at the show.

Another sad aspect was that Kishore's co-singers Lata and

Asha, who have sung countless songs with him over four decades, refused to attend the show. Similarly, most other important stars and composers were absent. It seems that the attendance of film folks is dictated only by the commercial rates they demand, whatever the occasion. So "Hope" of the year turned into a hopeless show, with only a few big names.

Fortunately Dilip Kumar came to grace the show and compose some items. But not Dev Anand, whose earlier youthful roles were all adorned by some of Kishore's best songs. From the stars Rajesh was supported only by Jeetendra and Rajeev Kapoor, Mandakini and Sonam. And there were the villainous "strong character actors" like Amjad Khan, Amrish Puri, Prem Chopra, Shakti Kapoor and Anupam Kher. Among composers, there were Kalyanji-Anandji, Ravindra Jain and Bappi Lahiri with his little daughter Reema who is being promoted as a singer.

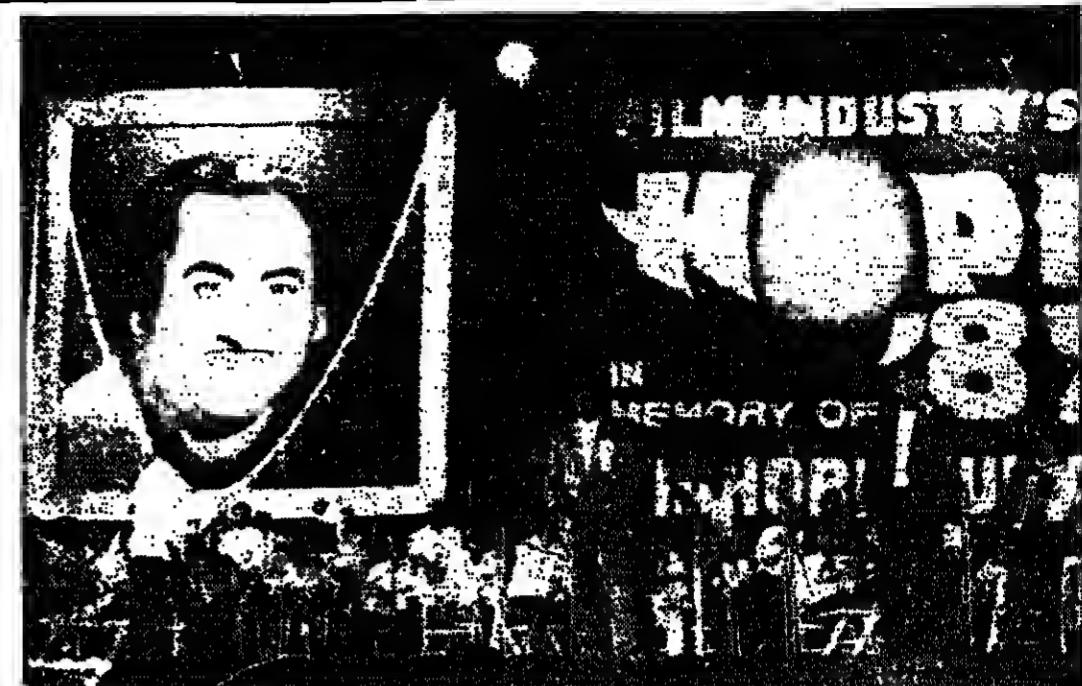
Second grade

All other singers were of the second grade, like Manhar, Jayshri, Sadhana Sargam, Hemlata, Sonali, Sapna Mukherjee and a boring Mahendra Kapoor. Instead of conducting the music, Bappi Lahiri obstinately kept singing in his own weird voice. His personal memories of Kishore Kumar were not appreciated by the audience. There were some cheap jokes, like Shakti Kapoor repeating his gags as Inspector Bhende from *Insaaf*. Deven Verma introduced Prem Chopra as the man who had managed three thousand women.

The girl vacillates between succumbing to all-pervasive societal pressures (which even condition her mind to a large extent) and her natural fear of fire and burning herself to death. The chandaal gets hysterical, he strongly urges her to run away. As the girl sits undecided beside her husband's pyre on the bank of the river, a huge wave washes away the husband's corpse. Instinctively, the girl jumps into the raging waters to rescue the body, but in vain. When Jashobati herself realises the danger she is in, it's too late. She cries out to the chandaal for help, he shouts that she should hold on to a wooden frame he has thrown in her direction. Before he can pull her ashore, however, she is swept away.

- With the censors' attitude being what it is, one wonders what will be the fate of Aparna Sen's film (also by NFDC). Not just titled sati, it actually shows Shahana Azmi going up in flames.

Courtesy: Filmfare



The film industry pays tribute to Kishore Kumar.

he in turn gave it over to Pride India, which had it sponsored by the Bush company. The industry was given twenty lakh rupees as total cost and nobody knows what profits the others made. They did not offer enough incentive to catch the big stars. And sadly Kishore's memory was not enough to bring them. In any case, the workers of the industry for whose benefit the shows are held, have not gained anything from all these lakhs of rupees.

This has led to in-fighting with everyone wanting a big slice of the cake in advance. In fact, Raj Babbar is reported to have stayed away because he wanted the whole limelight by putting the show in Smita's name.

Another function supposedly paying homage to Smita Patil was badly messed up. It was an anniversary/compliment meeting with Babbar as well as Smita's parents in the limelight. The occasion was used to play up photos of Smita's little son Pratik in the magazines. Actually it was to be his first birthday celebration. But luckily good sense prevailed and the fact that Smita had died only a year ago ensured that a homage was first priority over any festivity.

Among those who came to the crowded hall were stars like Poonam, Rohini, Akbar Khan, Shammi Kapoor and Mohan Choti but none of the big heroes. Of the producers, there were Shyam Benegal, Prakash Mehra, B R Chopra and some others. The organisation was pathetic. The programme began with a group wearing odd red outfits, as if they were singing a qawwali and not devotional songs. A special song composed for Smita was also sung.

Weep

Some speakers including politicians pretended to weep on the stage. Babbar had a soulful expression throughout. But he constantly referred to her as "Smitaji" and never as his wife, Mrs Babbar. Producers did not know what to say on the stage. Some organisation at once set up a Pratik Foundation and declared an acting award every year in memory of Smita. The biggest blunder was made by a flashily dressed Poonam. After speaking highly of Smita, she suddenly began praising B R Chopra and Prakash Mehra, as those who had turned Amitabh into a star. Perhaps, Poonam was advancing her own career using Smita as an excuse.



Mandakini dances to the same old tune from Ram Teri Ganga Mai.



Raj Babbar remembers his wife Smita on her first death anniversary.

'Sati' is a four-letter word for censors

FIRST ivory-Merchant's *The Deceivers*, shot in Jaipur, got into trouble for allegedly depicting sati in a glorified fashion. Now Gautam Ghosh, the latest "new wave" darling of West Bengal, has tripped with his *Shatruघनी Sati* art film, *Mahayatra*.

And for what? Glorifying sati! Now, that sounds like plain stupidity. If anything, Gautam Ghosh can be accused of glorifying Shatruघनी. But for the meddling by the censor officials, *Mahayatra* would have been in Berlin by now.

Said Gautam: "The mindless ignorance of these officials is incredible. They just didn't see the film." He explained that the girl doesn't merely let herself drown; she cries for help and the chandaal (played by Shatruघनी) at the burning ghat tries to save her. But he fails. "It is not as if Jashobati commits sati. She doesn't want to."

We were with Gautam for a

few days in May last year when he was shooting the film at Sagar Island, off Calcutta, and nothing could be more obvious about the story and intentions of the film maker. Gautam's previous films should be proof enough of where his sympathies lie.

Novel

And *Mahayatra* is a categorical statement against the inhuman practice as it was in the nineteenth century. Not stopping at that, Gautam has spoken at length in interviews about his assault on Sati. One of his statements published in *The Telegraph* referred to society never really changing. If there was Sati in the nineteenth century, he told this correspondent, there is the stove burning bright in the twentieth century. Does that sound like a man out to glorify sati?

Mahayatra is based on a novel (*Antarjali Jatra*) by the famous author, the late Kamal

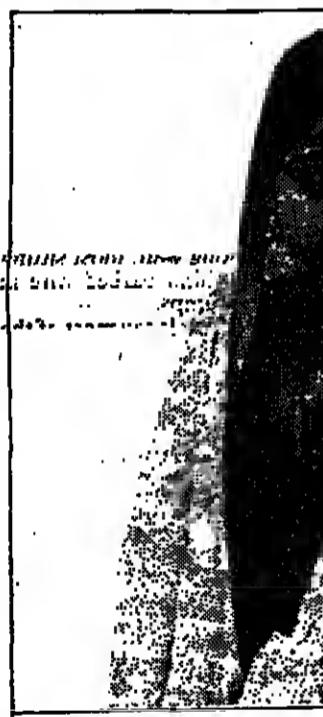
Kumar Majumdar, who was known to be an iconoclast. And a progressive author like Sunil Gangopadhyay has collaborated with Gautam on the dialogue and script. These should be credentials enough, if Gautam's own past record isn't. Gautam has also specifically set the film after 1829, the year the practice of sati was banned by the British. and this, he feels, should confirm that the film has nothing to glorify about sati.

The story centres around a cremation ground where a nubile girl, not yet a major, is being married off to a doddering old man who has one leg in the pyre. Quite dramatically, the nupcial and funeral rites run almost parallel. An acid-toned chandaal revolts against this barbaric act. His tirade against the practitioners of the ritual is corrosive enough to burn holes in your seat.

The girl vacillates between succumbing to all-pervasive societal pressures (which even condition her mind to a large extent) and her natural fear of fire and burning herself to death. The chandaal gets hysterical, he strongly urges her to run away. As the girl sits undecided beside her husband's pyre on the bank of the river, a huge wave washes away the husband's corpse. Instinctively, the girl jumps into the raging waters to rescue the body, but in vain. When Jashobati herself realises the danger she is in, it's too late. She cries out to the chandaal for help, he shouts that she should hold on to a wooden frame he has thrown in her direction. Before he can pull her ashore, however, she is swept away.

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Courtesy: Filmfare



Shampa Ghosh in *Mahayatra*.

Behind the Screen

Film people have no long-lasting attachments. Actor Ranjeet used to say that he was terribly fond of *Kis Ke Liye* as the title and theme of his own film, starring Vinod Khanna, Farha, Kimi. But since distributors did not like it he has promptly changed the name to *Karnama*.

Producer Tahir Hussain's son Asim Khan has been made a hero. Tahir's brother Nasir Hussain's son Mansoor Khan has been turned into a director. Both get their chance in *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak* made by the Hussain brothers. The film even carries a symbolic song: *Papa Kahate hain bada naam karega*. As some unsuccessful young actors say: "Fathers are any day better than godfathers."

A famous character actor charged ten thousand rupees to a producer without doing a single scene for the film. That was the price for just his photo to appear on the wall throughout the film. Could he not have given it free? The actor says: "Though it is a dumb image on the wall, it is an important character in the whole story."

Rakesh Roshan's decision to go bald on the head has led to much speculation. Is he trying to be like his brother, composer Rajesh Roshan? No. He wants to show that he no longer wants to be a wig-wearing actor but a tough director? No again. The acting itch has not died. He wants to become a top villain on the lines of baldies Amrish Puri and Anupam Kher.

Jaya Bachchan as story writer of *Shahenshah* was clearly an after-thought. It had never been declared as said before. But there were so many rumours that the story was a copy of *Death Wish* that a



Rakesh Roshan: cultivating a tough image

producers began to make a frantic search for a story writer. Jaya was not even given time to agree on lending her name. The super star himself thought that her name would lend respectability to the show. But since it backfired, people are asking: Is this what Jaya has been doing sitting in her lovely Swiss apartment?

Raj Babbar is being blamed for many things. One is his statement that it is better to work in films from Madras rather than Bombay, as work there is fast and money is prompt. But the Bombay producers say that Babbar is talking like this because he has no films here. He is not being signed as he speaks his dialogue slowly and haltingly. Can it be because he cannot remember his lines?

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HUMOUR



By Keith Wells

I CALLED my friend Wizr the other day.

"Hello," said this sexy voice. "Mr Wizr's secretary speaking, can I help you?"

"This is Mr Keith, I'd like to speak to Wizr please."

"One moment, I'll just see if he's in," she said, then the phone played Beethoven's 9th symphony (in full) before Wizr came on the line.

"Hi Mr Keith, how's things?"

"Fine, Wizr, where are you?"

"I'm in my car, on the Third Ring road."

"In the car? But who ensured?"

"That's Fluzi, my secretary, she works the telephone exchange as well, hang on Mr Keith, I've got a call on another line, please hold." Beethoven came back for a few moments, before Wizr's voice said, "Sorry Mr Keith, very important call, the guy in the Nissan Skyline just ahead of me called to tell me the traffic light had changed to green. Hang on, I've just got to call the guy behind me and let him know the news."

Beethoven's encore came on again, then Wizr said, "Mr Keith, can I call you back, there's fifteen calls all behind me, so I've got lots of calls to make, Bye!"

He hung up. The next day I went to see him, and there he was sitting in the front seat of his car, with Fluzi working the switchboard in the back seat.

"I'm just going to call my friend Ali," Wizr said. "He drives a Porsche and I must know how fast

Wizr phone

After a long absence, Wizr, king of the road returns to the local scene

he's going." He dialled the number, listened for a few minutes, gave his own number, then hung up.

"He's not answering," said Wizr, "I got through to his answering machine, he must be chatting up his girlfriend on the other line."

"You mean people have answering machines on their car telephones?" I asked.

"Sure," said Wizr, swerving neatly so as not to miss a rash pedestrian, who ended up with a bit more than a rash as a result. "It's very important to have an answer machine if you're busy on another line, or maybe not in the car because you have to go into office to get mail. Big problem in Kuwait, they don't deliver mail to the car yet, is very difficult for us."

"But how could they deliver mail to your car, they wouldn't know where you were?"

"Don't be silly, Mr Keith, of course they know, just call us on the telephone. I don't think DHL is even trying to solve this problem." The phone rang, Fluzi answered it, then put the call through to Wizr who listened for a few moments then had a rapid conversation in Arabic before hanging up.

THERE is "tough love" and then there is "tough media."

"Tough media" came out of the television business when TV interviewers discovered it was more profitable to rough up their guests than treat them with kindness.

Marco Polo, a local anchorman, told me why "tough media" is now the rule of broadcasting rather than the exception.

"If you treat the person you're interviewing with politeness everyone will think you're rolling over for him like a pet dog. People want to see their politicians pinned to the wall, particularly during an election year."

"How do you do that?"

"You ask the tough questions such as, 'Senator, have you ever committed adultery?'"

"What if he says no?"

"Then you ask, 'Has your church minister ever committed adultery?'"

"That could be a hard one," I admitted.

"You have to let your subject know who is in charge on your show. Let's say you ask him, 'How do you feel about the Panama Canal?' and he replies,

The Art Buchwald Column

Tough school

"Lousy." Then it's your turn to zero in on him and say, "You didn't say that in Des Moines during the debate. In Des Moines you said, and I quote, 'I'm sick of the Panama Canal.' Now which is it — lousy or sick? And then he replies, 'Some days I feel lousy about the canal and other days I feel sick about it.'

"Who are your best guests?"

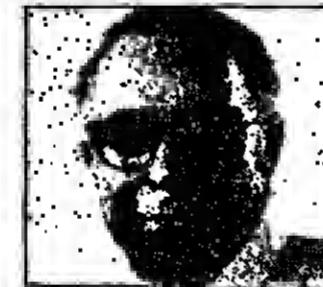
"I like to book TV evangelicals on the show. They are really good because they come up with stuff no one else dreams of. They know about Soviet missiles in Cuba, hostages in Lebanon and Jimmy Swaggart's battle with the devil in New Orleans. The audiences eat it up."

"So you never shut one of them off?"

"Not as long as he has a beer barrel rolling around in his head. You have to understand what tough television is all about. It first started with Ted Koppel, who told his guests he didn't understand what they were talking about."

"That is tough."

"TV was not invented for explaining deficits. My job is to give the programme a flow. That's why my questions are never too



Then the network anchorman picked it up, followed by Sam Donaldson, followed by local anchormen and women. Women are still softer on their subjects out of respect to Barbara Walters, who never talks tough because she is a lady. But we, TV interviewers are not going to be pushed around by anybody because they're our cameras and we paid for them."

"Do you get as much out of the interview if you're tough?"

"No, but my subject does. The printed press portrays me as a first-class stinker."

"Does this bother you?"

"I'd rather go to a black screen for eight minutes than toss someone a softball question."

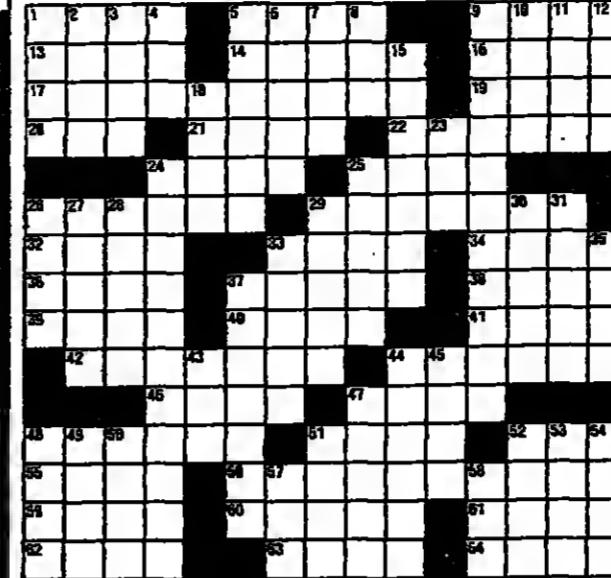
1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

ANDY CAPP



By Smith

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Coorsie file
- 5 Bistro
- 9 Cultivated
- 13 — breve
- 14 Playwright's device
- 16 Thomas — Edison
- 17 Sweetheart
- 19 Den
- 20 Stitch
- 21 Appear
- 22 Perplex
- 24 Convertibles, e.g.
- 25 Engrave
- 26 Flag
- 29 Mnstheckneyad
- 32 City on the Oka
- 33 Did a blacksmith's job
- 34 Wimbledon winners
- 36 Old-fashioned oath
- 37 Obscure
- 38 Measure
- 39 Scamper
- 40 Ross or Ritzella
- 41 Hurry along
- 42 Compass Indicators
- 43 Smartens up
- 46 Art course; Abbr.
- 47 Bill stamp
- 48 Crowns of a sort
- 51 Frigate feature
- 52 Pindar offering
- 55 Check copy

DOWN

- 1 Cheers
- 2 Toward shatter
- 3 Cabbage salad
- 4 Provides food
- 5 Cinders
- 7 Unwavering
- 8 Tokyo, formerly Lukewarm
- 10 Norwegian saint
- 11 Wicked
- 12 Ventura
- 15 Period of decline
- 16 Romanov title
- 23 Performance
- 24 Unfeeling
- 25 Wear away
- 26 Student
- 27 Church instrument
- 28 Legal document
- 29 "— all, folks"
- 30 Startle
- 31 Grand — National Park, Wyoming
- 33 White sale purchase
- 35 Cliques
- 37 Glitz

ACROSS

- 56 Sorrows
- 59 Dilemma
- 60 1945
- 61 Conference site
- 62 Musher's vehicle
- 63 Hardy heroine
- 64 Infection

DOWN

- 43 Biological initials
- 44 Trattoria offerings
- 45 Hayworth of the movies
- 47 Components
- 48 Gymnasts' aims
- 49 Popular hero
- 50 Assistant
- 51 Anagram for Elayne
- 52 Buckeye State
- 53 Actor Bruce
- 54 Being: Lat.
- 55 Have lunch
- 56 Garfield, e.g.

ACROSS

- 57 Buckeye State
- 58 Garfield, e.g.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♦ J 6 5 2

♥ Q 7 4

♦ A 9 5

♣ A 7 3

WEST

♦ 9

♥ 8 6 3

♦ J 10 8 4

♣ Q 10 9 8 2

EAST

♦ Q 10 8

♥ 9 5 2

♦ 6 3 2

♣ J 4

SOUTH

♦ A K 7 4 3

♥ K 10

♦ K 7

♣ K 6 5

The bidding:

North	Pass	South	Pass
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

If the average player has a major fault, it is that he is all too ready to concede defeat. Don't lower the flag until you have exhausted all chances to make your contract.

Six spades was a good contract. It would be cold if the queen of spades dropped either doubleton or singleton and, as South proved, there were other chances, albeit slim, even if her majesty did not appear.

West led a diamond, and declarer soon knew he had a steep hill to climb. He won in hand and cashed the ace-king of spades to learn that he had a trump loser. Many a player

was a good contract.

True, declarer was most fortunate to find a distribution that enabled him to make his slam. But credit him with the technique to make good fortune pay off.

would now have thrown in the towel. But was there a way to avoid losing a club trick?

Declarer worked out that he could still bring home his contract if East held specifically a doubleton club and a suitable holding in the red suits. After cashing his three heart winners and the ace-king of clubs, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond in his hand to complete the ground-work for an endplay. He then exited with a trump.

The file of cards was the answer to a bridge player's prayers. In with the queen of spades, East was forced to lead a red card. Declarer could ruff in either hand while discarding his club loser from the other, so he lost only a trump trick.

True, declarer was most fortunate to find a distribution that enabled him to make his slam. But credit him with the technique to make good fortune pay off.

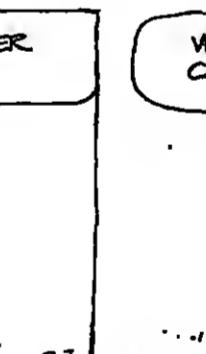


By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to help a friend who is having a difficult time. You should not expect to have everything your own way. Try to think a little more positively. Be reliable.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Avoid imposing on others. Do all you can to stop creating confusion. Read the instructions carefully before using a new gadget. Be reasonable.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will know what is the right thing to do in the circumstances. You must do a little more to maintain harmony with your partner. Avoid placing too much reliance on pills and patent medicines. Be considerate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be able to draw the right conclusions. You should leave yourself a little more room for manoeuvre. Do not underestimate the difficulties. Be polite.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will not be able to rely on your intuitive powers just now. Make sure you get all the rest you need. Ensure you turn all switches off. Be sincere.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You are liable to be biased for something that is not at all your fault. You should make sure you do not get in anyone's way. Avoid having a too late night. Be benevolent.



Joy, isolated

Dear Junior Readers,

It has been a busy week for you at school, and I'm sure you are looking forward to a relaxing weekend. Weekends are a good time to refresh yourself after a week of studying. It is fun to sleep in, have a leisurely breakfast and enjoy some sports with friends without thinking about school. If you have done your homework on Wednesday night, you have the rest of the weekend free to do the things that you don't seem to have time for during the week. Have a good weekend.

Aunt Barbara

Happy birthday

Zohreh Patel celebrates his 4th birthday on Friday, March 18. Best wishes, Zohreh, from your family and friends.



Dick! Jane! What are you doing with the spot remover?

ONCE there were three brothers. The oldest brother was Big-Arm. He was known for his strength. The youngest brother was Big-Heart. He was known for his kindness. But the middle brother was known for his bragging tongue. And everyone called him Big-Mouth.

Whenever that bragging middle brother, Big-Mouth, told about anything he saw, it became the biggest (or the smallest), the ugliest (or the prettiest), the best (or the worst) ever. Every April shower was a cloudburst. Every hill was a mountain. Every milkmaid was a princess. Every spider was a tarantula.

Every pony was a stallion (and wild, at that). And Big-Mouth himself was the bravest, cleverest young man in the whole countryside — according to Big-Mouth.

And oh, the stories Big-Mouth told — not only of the things he had done yesterday or a week ago Tuesday, but of the things he was going to do tomorrow, or next week, or whenever he had the chance!

Some day, Big-Mouth said, he would capture a unicorn and bring it back alive. Of course nobody in the village had ever seen a unicorn. Several people said there was no such thing. But Big-Mouth said, "Well, if there is a unicorn, I will get him. Wait and see!"

Some day, Big-Mouth said, he would travel to Mountain of Gold and bring home enough treasure to make everyone

in the village rich forever. "What Mountain of Gold?" asked the schoolteacher. But Big-Mouth said, "Well, if there is a Mountain of Gold, I'll bring half of it home. Wait and see!"

And some day, Big-Mouth said, he would fight the giant who lived in the Wrestling Wood and make him cry for mercy. "If there is a giant," he said, "I'll send him running for cover. Wait and see!"

But there was a giant, that's the truth of it. He was not the largest giant in the world. And he wasn't the strongest. He wasn't even the stupidest — not quite. He was just a middle giant — middling strong, middling stupid, and unpleasant enough. You

wouldn't want to meet him, at any rate. Even a middling giant is still a giant, after all.

Of course it happened that Big-Mouth had to go through the Wrestling Wood one day. If he hadn't had to go, there'd be no story.

And of course he met the giant. If he hadn't met him, the story wouldn't be worth telling. What use is a giant story in which nobody meets the giant?

Still, nobody had met this giant for a long time. He was supposed to stay in the woods and wrestle whoever came through — it was his job.

But whenever he was sitting on the east side of the wood, people kept going through on the west side.

And whenever people passed through the east side of the wood, the giant would be sitting on the west side, twiddling his thumbs and becoming more unpleasant by the hour. He had even taken to wrestling trees, and had laid quite a number of them flat on the ground around him.

Now along came Big-Mouth through the Wrestling Wood, talking as he came. For Big-Mouth's tongue was not only bragging, it was also never still.

No matter what happened to him, his tongue kept right on wagging. And the braggart kept right on spilling out. He simply could not shut up.

"If I meet the giant," he said, "I'll wrestle him, I will. If there is a giant, that is."

"Halt!" said the giant.

"Of course you can't believe everything you hear," said Big-Mouth.

"Some people make up the silliest stories about giants and dragons and —"

"HALT!" cried the giant.

Big-Mouth took one look and jumped into the pile of uprooted trees that lay at the side of the path.

"Oh, afraid, are you?" roared the giant.

"Afraid?" cried Big-Mouth. "I should say not! I'm — I'm — I'm just hunting for the biggest tree to hit you with!"

The giant blinked his eyes. What kind of fellow was this, anyway? He reached in and dragged Big-Mouth out into the open by his shirt-tail.

"Let's wrestle!" bell-voiced the giant.

Poor Big-Mouth! Struggling in the giant's grasp, he began to sweat. His eyes began to bulge, and his teeth chattered with fright. He opened his mouth. Was he going to yell for help?

"You — you'd better watch out, you!" he said.

"Watch out!" roared the giant. "Why, look at you, you are so frightened you're covered with sweat! Any minute now and you'll be begging for mercy!"

There was nothing Big-Mouth wanted more than mercy. But alas, his bragging tongue just wouldn't say the word.

"I'm — not sweating," he said. "I'm g-g-greasing myself — so you won't be

able to hang on to me!"

The giant almost lost him at that, for he was slippery. "Well then," snarled the giant, tightening his grip. "why are your eyes bulging like that? Any minute now and you're going to beg me to let go so you can breathe again!"

"Oh no I won't!" squeaked Big-Mouth with what little breath he had.

"My eyes are bulging because I'm — I'm looking around for a g-g-good p-p-place to throw you!"

This was almost too much. With a bellow of rage, the giant held Big-Mouth up right in front of his ugly face.

"Well, in that case," he roared, "tell me why your teeth are chattering. Just tell me that!"

With such a close view of the giant's teeth, poor Big-Mouth nearly fainted dead away. But nothing, not even that, could stop his bragging tongue.

"My teeth aren't chattering!" he cried. "I'm — I'm sh-sh-sharpening them to b-bit off your n-n-nose!"

And at that the giant clapped his hand over his nose, dropped Big-Mouth to the ground and ran away deep into the woods. He was never heard from again.

But incase you think this shows that bragging is a good idea, let me tell you the rest.

When Big-Mouth returned home, nobody in the whole village believed him — not even his brother Big-Heart, although he was kind enough to tell me the story.

How Big-Mouth wrestled the giant



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Schools in the news

Universal American School celebrates Ethnic Day with a number of booths displaying items characteristic of various countries.



Gulf English School juniors enjoy Sports Day at Yarmouk stadium yesterday.

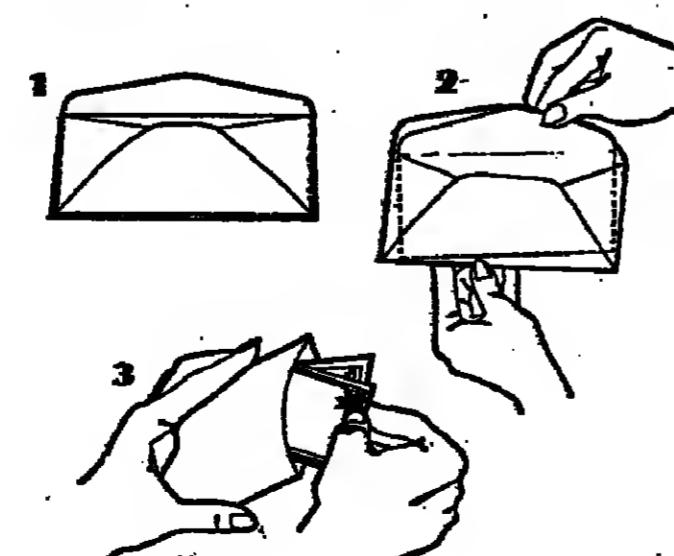
Magic tricks**The double envelope**

The illusion: On a piece of paper you write the words: "One dollar" or "Happy Birthday" or (shall we say) "The 3 of Hearts." Seal it in an otherwise empty envelope. When the seal is cut open, you reach in and pull out an actual envelope is cut open, you reach in and pull out an actual one-dollar bill, a birthday card, or the 3 of Hearts itself!

The preparation: Take two identical envelopes and set one aside. Hold the second one so you're looking at the flap-side. On the bottom edge make a small mark about 1/32" from each side. With a razor blade cut on a straight line, at a slight angle, from each mark to the crease of the flap at each end of the envelope. Now cut 1/32" off the bottom of the envelope (1). Discard the back of the envelope and carefully slide the face-and-flap piece inside your second envelope (2). Open the envelope itself, run a thin line of glue, about 1/4" wide, inside the right end. Slide the dollar bill (or card) down between the two flaps, lick the glue on the flap of the real envelope and stick it to the flap of the insert. Now close both flaps together and set the envelope under a book until the glues have dried.

As a precaution, seal shut a third, identical envelope, cut off 1/8" of the right end, and conceal this envelope in your pocket, purse, or a drawer.

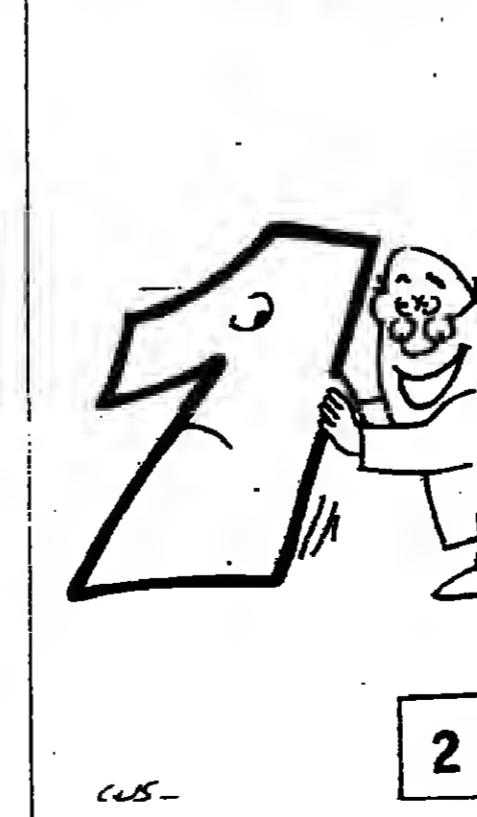
The trick: Write whatever you wish on a piece of paper, drop the paper into the envelope, showing the empty interior as you do so, and seal the envelope shut. Tap the envelope with a pair of scissors. Cut off 1/8" from the right end (the end where you put the line of glue) and open the end of the envelope. Because of the glue, only one of the two compartments will open — the one containing whatever you had previously put in it. (3) Reach in, pull out the object, and give it to someone. Casually put the envelope in your pocket or purse, and go on to another trick. In case your audience asks to see the envelope, give them the unprepared one, but if they don't ask, don't offer!

**Mind jogger**

Which two-figure number in a horizontal row must be taken out to make the addition sum correct?

4	1
2	3
6	5
5	4
7	6
3	2
2	3
7	

ANSWER

**Seven Sees**

Can you find a route from A to B, only passing through adjacent squares which are multiples of 7?

A	15	28	27	17	25	18	27	13
22	7	13	35	23	50	48	16	17
21	27	19	72	77	26	55	23	49
12	9	18	12	60	14	51	31	34
17	47	52	42	15	44	49	53	54
21	22	35	51	61	23	20	28	19
69	56	71	82	21	46	70	36	72
32	17	47	58	45	14	43	67	41
14	57	63	73	19	69	63	56	B

'Isles of perpetual June'

A hot idea in sunny vacations: the Bahamas

The Bahamas, island by island

THE dazzling emerald islands of the Bahamas — with their turquoise seas and white sand beaches, their secluded seaside cottages and glamorous resort palaces, their easy-going yet elegant vacation lifestyle — are indeed America's South Sea Islands.

The Bahamas are also an international shopping — those who want to dive among brilliant living reefs, golf on 18-hole championship courses, or gamble day and night in glittering casinos. All of this, plus their proximity to the United States, make the Bahama Islands the most popular destination in the Caribbean area.

Vacation options in the Bahamas range from the historic charm of Nassau, the glitter and excitement of Paradise Island or the resort and sporting atmosphere of Grand Bahama Island to any one of the more removed Family Islands — over a dozen Out Islands and countless cays each with few small settlements, empty beaches, and unsurpassed fishing, diving, yachting, and more.

There are three distinct vacation worlds to explore among the islands of the Bahamas, each different and appealing. The best known and most popular is Nassau and Paradise Island, which combines the colonial charm and historic landmarks of the centuries-old capital city of Nassau with the excitement and sophistication of world-famous resorts and casinos on Paradise Island and along beautiful Cable Beach, just minutes away.

The second world of Bahamas vacations is Grand Bahama Island, with the newly developed resort centres of Freeport and suburban Lucaya, which offer a country-club vacation lifestyle with half a dozen superb 18-hole championship golf courses; UNEXSO, an internationally famous scuba-diving school; elegant hotels and casinos that rival the best of Nassau and Paradise Island; miles of beautiful beaches; and round-the-world bargains in the colourful International Bazaar.

The third world of vacation pleasures offered in the Bahamas is officially called the Family Islands. They encompass all the other islands in the Bahamas chain, and have been known to generations of visitors and Bahamians as the Out Islands ... "out from the glamour of Nassau and Freeport, but every much 'in' with sophisticated travellers. The Family Islands are favourite holiday hideaway havens for international celebrities, the wealthy, the titled and the famous, and a mecca for serious yachtsmen, fishermen and divers.

There are more than twenty lovely Family Islands to choose from, some large and some small, some just fifty to one hundred miles off Florida's shores, others more than 350 miles from the capital city of Nassau. Whichever island you choose, you'll find the Family Island "trademarks" — endless, nearly empty beaches to

The seven hundred emerald gems in the island chain known as the Bahamas are bordered by powder-soft, white-sand beaches; lined with whispering casuarinas and swaying palms; and fringed by living coral reefs. They stretch in a long, languid arc from Florida to the Caribbean Sea, surrounded by a palette of blue and green waters of unbelievable clarity and indescribable beauty. An astronaut soaring more than a hundred miles above them said they were 'like nothing else on earth ... a ribbon of turquoise lost in the midnight blue of the world's oceans.'

roam, crystal-clear waters to swim and snorkle, colourful coral reefs to dive, fine fishing and good sailing, with a relaxed, uncomplicated lifestyle ideal for "getting away from it all."

IN the Bahamas there are just two seasons. Winter season is the high season, when hotel rates, airfares, and charter packages are at their peak. The winter season begins in mid-December, usually a week before Christmas, and extends through April or the week after Easter. The second season is known as Goombay Summer in the Bahamas, and it lasts all of the rest of the year from the week after Easter to mid-December.

Winter season attracts many wealthy visitors from around the world. It also attracts hundreds of thousands of ordinary Americans and Canadians eager to escape the freezing cold and blizzards of northern climes. The weather in winter months is almost ideal, ranging from 70 to 80 degrees F, with a sea temperature of 70-75 degrees, some seven hours of bright sunshine daily, and almost no rain. However, an occasional "Norther" can move in, usually the last vestiges of a severe winter blizzard in the north, and skies can cloud over for a day or two and temperatures drop into the low 50s.

During the winter season vacation lifestyles tend to be slightly more formal than during the summer. There are gala charity balls, local theatre productions, and name entertainers at famous nightclubs. Most of the fine restaurants, lounges, casinos, and nightclubs require a jacket and tie for men, and women usually dress in long skirts, cocktail dresses, or elegant pantsuits. Rarely, however, are evening gowns and black tie appropriate.

In general, during winter season, hotels and resorts enjoy the highest occupancy levels of the year, and prices are somewhat higher across the board for everything from restaurant meals to city tours, from grecus fees to shopping bargains. Book well in advance for airline tickets and your first choice of hotel or resort, particularly at the peak periods: the week between Christmas and New Year's and Easter week.

Goombay Summer is the season of low prices and high spirits in the Bahamas. It lasts for eight months, from just after Easter to just before Christmas, and rates for everything are the lowest of the year, usually 20 to 30 per cent, sometimes as much as 50 per cent lower. Yet, paradoxically,

it may be the most fun and most interesting time of the year to visit the Bahamas. The Goombay Summer calendar is filled with exciting social, and sporting events such as golf, tennis, and fishing tournaments, and the islands are a riot of colour with tropical flowers and magnificent foliage in full bloom.

THE Bahamas offer an exceptionally broad range of visitor accommodations to fit almost any vacation lifestyle and budget. The winter season begins in mid-December, usually a week before Christmas, and extends through April or the week after Easter. The second season is known as Goombay Summer in the Bahamas, and it lasts all of the rest of the year from the week after Easter to mid-December.

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ish Wells, the Exumas, Rum Cay, and Long Island. For golfers, there are luxurious country club resorts on Eleuthera at Cotton Bay and in the Abacos at Treasure Cay. Rates at Family Island resorts tend to be significantly lower than comparable accommodations in Nassau, with a few famed, worldclass exceptions in the deluxe range.

Particularly good rates are offered throughout the Bahamas during the off-season, Goombay Summer, which stretches from just after Easter to right before Christmas, when rates can be anywhere from 20 to more than 40 per cent lower than in the high-season winter months.

HERE is a projected daily estimate (based on winter-or high-season rates) for two persons within each island grouping.

This daily rate includes a double room at a beach hotel, and three meals a day with tips, but does not include 6 per cent room tax/resort levy, service charges, or surcharges. In addition, there is the approximate rate for a one-day sightseeing tour with a taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental. All prices in US dollars.

New Providence — Nassau, Cable Beach and Paradise Island — US \$

Standard, double room at a beach hotel — \$135

Breakfast at your hotel — \$15

Lunch at an inexpensive native restaurant — \$25

Three-course dinner at an expensive restaurant (without liquor) \$60

Room, meals, gratuities \$235

One day sightseeing with taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental

Total: \$235

Grand Bahama — Freeport, Lucaya, West End

Standard, double room at a beach hotel — \$95

Breakfast at your hotel — \$15

Lunch at an inexpensive native restaurant — \$25

Three-course dinner at an expensive restaurant (without liquor) — \$60

Room, meals, gratuities \$195

One day sightseeing with taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental

Total: \$225

The Family Islands

Standard, double room at a beach hotel — \$90

Breakfast at your hotel — \$15

Lunch at an inexpensive native restaurant — \$15

Three-course dinner at an expensive restaurant (without liquor) \$50

Room, meals, gratuities \$195

One day sightseeing with taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental

Total: \$225

Windemere Island Club in Clifton bay in Lyford Cay in the Bahamas.

Room, meals, gratuities — \$170

One day sightseeing with taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental — \$60

Total: \$230

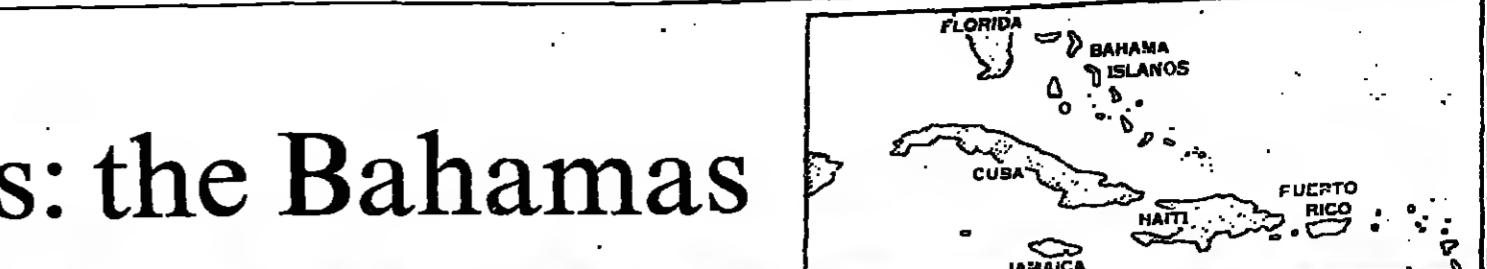
For air travel to the Bahamas consult your local travel agent.

Approximate fares are KD 350.

For further information you may write to the Bahamas Tourist Office, 10 Chesterfield Street, London WIX 8 AH.

All prices in US dollars.

Canadian citizens and citizens of the United Kingdom do not need passports or visas to enter the Bahamas for periods not exceeding three weeks. Similar identification as required for Americans is accepted as proof of citizen-



Millionaires Island: Clifton bay in Lyford Cay in the Bahamas.

Room, meals, gratuities — \$170

One day sightseeing with taxi driver/tour guide or 24-hour car rental — \$60

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ship.

The currency of the Bahamas is the BS, which is held on an exact par with the US dollar. Both currencies are used interchangeably throughout The Bahamas, and you can expect to receive change in either currency or both. The Bahamian dollar is divided into 1-, 5-, 10-, 25-, and 50-cent coins, and an unusual 15-cent coin. Other coins are \$1, \$2, and \$5, with special issues of larger denominations in gold and silver. Favourite coin souvenirs

are the scalloped-edge 10-cent piece, and the square-shaped 15-cent piece. Paper currency is issued in the same denominations as US currency, \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, etc. In addition, there are two unusual paper bills, the 50-cent note and the \$3 note — both favourites of collectors. All paper currency is very colourful, and is a favourite souvenir.

Currency exchange is handled by banks in the Bahamas, although some hotels will convert limited amounts of certain foreign currency at relatively high commission rates. Bank conversion rates are lower.

Join the club: no membership required

By Marion Laffey Fox

CELEBRITIES and the quietly rich have always relished the exclusivity of private clubs. Today countless hotels and resorts from Bermuda to Barbados are adopting the personalised, club-inspired, one-fee, no-hassle philosophy that has become one of the hottest ideas in warm-weather vacationing.

Without exception, these "clubs" boast dazzling sites and alluring names: Coral Beach Club, Ocean Club, and Paradise Beach Club. Some require memberships; others offer time-share arrangements. Many are simply resorts or cottage colonies that feel "clubby," with the same crowd vacationing at the same time each year.

Old-line clubs such as Mill Reef Club in Antigua and Lyford Cay Club in Nassau are still members-only places, with closely monitored gates. Entrance means rigorous admission policies, letters of recommendation, and annual membership fees.

Antigua's two-year-old St. James Club, cousin to the London and Paris clubs of the same name, is an authentic club that doesn't worry about members — yet. Fringed by two wide beaches, the lush facility accommodates more than 200 guests in long low villas unobtrusively tucked among 100 acres. This newest darling of the Caribbean features an array of water sports as well as a pool, five tennis courts, Texas quarter horses, and a gymnasium.

The British have always been clubby. Sixteen properties in Bermuda are called clubs, but only two really are. The famous Mid-Ocean Club offers the best golf on the island, and an introduction from a member is required. On the south shore's most splendid site, Coral Beach, and Tennis Club overlooks miles of sand and rolling surf. Reservations must be accompanied by an introduction from a member or former guest.

Some deluxe vacation spots trace their existence to bottomless fortunes and boundless eccentricity. Huntington Hartford's unabashed love affair with the Bahamas caused him to rename Hogg Island, across the bridge from Nassau, as Paradise Island. Today the remarkable house with 70 guest rooms is part of a splendid resort called the Ocean Club.

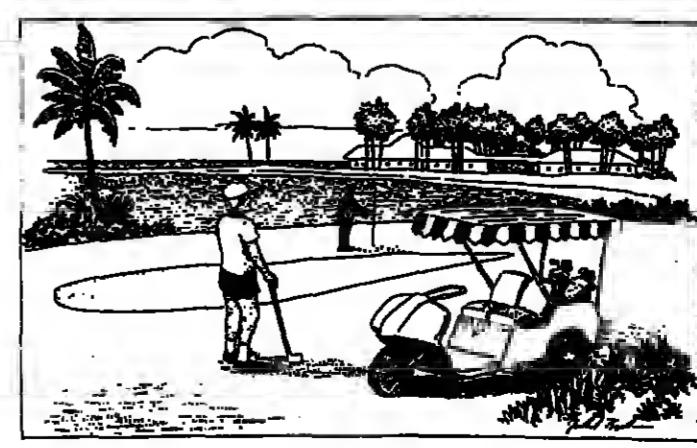


Windemere Island Club in the Bahamas. Its mystique is privacy and anonymity.

This raspberry sherbet-coloured house accented with thick white columns overlooks the sea.

The combination of house and gardens makes Hartford's former estate an unforgettable retreat.

From the pool and tennis courts, 12th-century arched French cloisters establish a Mediterranean *deja vu*.



Everyone pauses to inspect the marble cherubs and nymphs that hide among pale junipers and gauzy pines. They stare at the bronze likenesses of Franklin Delano Roosevelt or Stanley Livingstone, and photograph each other with Napoleon's Josephine.

In the main building, newly refurbished rooms and suites off the veranda face toward the

beach and pool. Meals that emphasise fresh seafood and local produce, are served around the pool, in the cosy dining room, or arranged at one of 14 local restaurants.

Windemere Island Club is another ideal, yet very different, Bahamian hideaway. The private island, a sandy sliver five miles long and a half-mile wide, lies 20 feet across a rustic bridge from the coast of Eleuthera. A pink beach the length of the island is Windemere's most charming asset.

Windemere's mystique is privacy and anonymity. Although many members and homeowners represent noble British families and American big business, guests soon realise that simplicity is the watchword.

The totally understated, weathered New England atmosphere includes two dining rooms, main sitting lounge, cupola-roofed library, cheerful rooms, suites, individually decorated villas, and apartments. When owners like Billy Baldwin and the Mountbatten clan are not in residence, the available rental list swells with splendid houses called Haycon House, Savannah, and Coriolana.

Windemere Island Club was founded in 1968 by Sir Harold G. Christie and entrepreneur Harold A. Ley. When it was recently acquired by American James Sherwood, owner of the Venice-Simpson Orient Express, guests quietly expected sweeping changes. But Sherwood insisted that, while necessary improvements should not be ignored, the unique signature of Windemere be scrupulously maintained.

Delicately tinted chino and linens lend a soft look to dining areas that were once dominated by drip-dry cloths and institutional-type tableware. Jeff Baldwin, the new executive chef, emphasizes local products with a new taste that borders on

In addition to Windemere and the Ocean Club, there's always Tryall Golf and Beach Club in Jamaica, Oyster Pond Yacht Club on St. Maarten, and the Meridian Club on Pine Cay.

Just remember to pack at least one club tie with your Bermuda shorts and blazer. You never know when you'll need just the right clothes.

©1988, The Christian Science Monitor.



The Bahamas offer an exceptionally broad range of visitor accommodations to fit any lifestyle and budget.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Arab countries told to upgrade refineries

Expert sees higher oil prices in 1990s

BAGHDAD, March 16. (Reuter): A leading Arab oil expert predicted today that world oil prices would hover in the \$15 to 20 a barrel range until 1990 and then climb sharply as Opec tightened its grip on the world oil market.

Robert Mabro of the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies foresees an upturn in demand for oil produced by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) in the early 1990s, yielding their first real increase in vital oil revenues for a decade.

"With ups and downs, the price of oil will be maintained for a year or two, within the \$15-20 a barrel range which we saw in 1987," he told the third day of an Arab energy conference.

Increases

"In 1990-91 until the mid-1990s we shall see increases in the nominal dollar price," he said.

But Mabro cautioned that Opec must not spoil its chances by fixing prices too high or producing too much oil. Either could trigger a repeat of the 1986 oil price collapse, he said.

Oil prices have fallen around \$4.4 a barrel below Opec's \$18 reference price since the start of

the year in part because of high stocks from Opec overproduction last year, Mabro said. Prices are now half 1985 levels.

The 13-nation group's share of world oil output shrank to 32 per cent in 1987 from 52 per cent in 1976 because of competition from non-Opec producers.

Suffered

Oil prices and revenues have suffered, plunging Opec states into recession and forcing them to slash development spending and once-generous foreign aid.

Mabro said that in the face of declining market share, Opec had gradually shifted from a policy of trying to control prices to one of controlling output.

This reflects the weight within Opec of Gulf oil producers by Saudi Arabia, which favour defence of output levels before prices.

Mabro urged Opec to maintain such a policy, but frequently to adjust output quotas to reflect demand instead of the current practice of fixing them for six months at a time.

At its last meeting last December, Opec set an output ceiling of 15.06 million barrels per day (bpd) excluding Iraq with the

goal of holding oil prices at \$18 a barrel.

"We need an output-based policy with a price goal, but we must add to this an automatic way to adjust the quantity every month or two to ensure that the price goal is realised," he said.

Mabro saw demand for Opec oil rising to 22.5 million barrels per day (bpd) in 1991 and 26.5-27.5 million bpd in 1995 from 20.1 million bpd in 1987, assuming only moderate price rises.

A more pessimistic scenario based on higher Opec prices sees demand rising to 21.5 million bpd in 1991 and 24.4-24 million bpd in 1995.

Demand for Arab Opec oil would hit 16.7-17.6 million bpd in 1995 from output of 21.1 million bpd in 1987 under the optimistic scenario, and 12.7-14.7 million bpd under the pessimistic one.

The former could lead to a 40-45 per cent rise in the foreign exchange earnings of Arab Opec states in constant dollars between now and 1995, Mabro said.

Meanwhile, Opec's acting secretary general Fadhl Chalabi foresees a sustained period of price uncertainty in the world oil

market if non-Opec producers did not cooperate to curb oil production.

He said that a drop of some \$4 a barrel in world oil prices since the beginning of the year had resulted from high non-Opec output and low demand for Opec oil.

"The present conditions will continue for a considerable time if non-Opec supply does not decrease significantly and demand does not increase," he said.

Production

Chalabi said Opec now had 10 cut production if it wanted to preserve its \$18 a barrel reference price. This would mean sacrificing some of its market share to producers outside the 13 nation group.

"Opec cannot defend oil prices and its market share at the same time. Either it must defend its market share and leave prices to supply and demand, or stabilise prices and leave output levels to forces of demand," he said.

The only other alternative was to press non-Opec producers into cutting their production.

"At this time Opec can do is to create incentives for non-Opec

members to cooperate to ensure the stability of prices," he said.

He predicted that if the market continued to weaken, non-Opec producers would see it in their interest to cut production to help boost prices as they did in 1986.

"What is going on now will lead non-Opec producers to realise that it is in their interest to reduce production to achieve not necessarily a fixed price but a range of between \$15 and 18," he said.

Cooperation

According to Al Wattari, Opec was currently conducting studies on refinery capacities in Arab countries, product specification, manpower, new projects and data exchange.

He noted that under a five-year programme, covering 1987-91, Opec was launching efforts to encourage the exchange of oil products among Arab countries.

He also stressed the need for cooperation among Arab countries in the transport and distribution of oil products and natural gas, adding that joint actions were the only option available.

He said that Opec and other Arab organisations could play a role in the efforts towards Arab economic integration.

In his paper titled "opportunities for cooperation, coordination and integration in the Arab refining industry," he said consumption of oil products in the Arab world was expected to reach 194 million tons by 1995.

He said that the surplus of oil products produced by Arab refineries could be absorbed by the Arab countries as the region was the most rapidly growing market for products in the world.

Capacity

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON

JAPAN 707/0

JAGUAR 304/0

LABROK 404/0

LAND SEC'S 528/0

LAPORE 373/0

LAST 335/0

LASHO 335/0

LEGAL-GEN 287/0

LIBERTY LIFE 267/0

LICCO 112/0

LUCAS IND 618/0

LYDONS 375/4

MAGNET 233/0

MARDON 131/0

MARKS-SP 181/0

ARYILL SP 207/0

MARVELL C 260/0

MAYSON 100/0

METAL BOX 195/0

BAE PP 177/0

MEPC 508/0

MIDLAND BK 400/0

MILTON 447/0

MINTON 485/0

MTR FOODS 267/0

MULLER 404/0

MUNIC 528/0

MURDOCK 180/0

NEXUS 295/0

NEXT 295/0

NIBCO 215/0

NITCO 520/0

NOV 150/0

NORD 150/0

NORTH 150/0

NORTHERN 150/0

NORTH 150/

Kuwait total energy use set to rise further

BAGHDAD, March 16. (Kuna): According to a Kuwaiti study published here today, Kuwait's total consumption of energy in the year 2000 will rise to 96.7 million barrels a year, an increase of 1.2 to 2.3 per cent yearly.

The report, tabled by the Kuwaiti delegation to the fourth Arab energy conference which winds up here tomorrow, said the largest part of consumption would be in the field of electricity generation which will rise to 39 million barrels in the year 2000 against 35.4 million barrels in 1986.

The study indicated that total use of energy for all purposes in Kuwait has reached 74.4 million barrels of oil in 1986, which equals 203,000 barrels a day.

The study has projected its estimates of future demand for energy in the period 1990 to 2000 on the basis of present forecasts on national income, estimated population growth, per capita income and expected changes in oil prices and general averages of inflation.

According to the study, domestic consumption of energy including electricity, would rise to 12.1 million barrels of oil in 2000 compared to only 9.3 million barrels in 1986.

It is also expected, in transportation sector, that energy utilisation would grow from 13.9 million barrels of oil in 1986 to nearly 25.6 million barrels in 2000.

The study, however, estimated that individual share of total energy would decrease from 41 to 31 barrels for the same period on the basis of projected population growth and changes in electricity tariffs.

The study said that despite the decrease in demand for energy in the world market the number of workers in the field of energy in Kuwait edged up from 25,400 in 1980 to 27,600 in 1986.

The report added that such hike is related to increasing activities of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) and its subsidiaries such as the modernisation of refineries at home, or acquisition of projects abroad.

It indicated that a number of workers of the Ministry of Water and Electricity declined to 11,400 in 1986 from 13,000 in 1981.

The Kuwaiti delegation to the conference is headed by Siham Ruzuki from the Oil Ministry, and includes a number of officials from the ministry, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in addition to Kuwait Petrochemical Industries Company.

Brazil raises gasoline prices

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, March 16, (AP): The government raised the price of gasoline, alcohol fuel and petroleum derivatives yesterday by an average of 18.65 percent.

The pump price of gasoline rose to the equivalent of \$1.57 a gallon. Pure alcohol fuel, which powers about 25 percent of the nation's 10 million cars, went up to \$1.30 a gallon.

Similar increases were decreed for diesel fuel, cooking gas, fuel oil, naphtha and airplane fuel.

The National Petroleum Council said the increase was due to the almost daily devaluation of the Brazilian cruzado and to higher costs for alcohol producers, transport and packaging.

It was the third increase this year, bringing the total increase to 60.70 per cent since January. The last increase was on Feb 9 and inflation in the period is estimated at 59.41 per cent in the first three months.

Brazil has pledged to keep alcohol 35 percent cheaper than gasoline in an effort to encourage motorists to switch to vehicles powered by alcohol, which is made from domestically-grown sugar cane.

Plant

Construction must begin "at the latest in 1990," said Research and Technology Minister B. J. Habibie.

He insisted that traditional and untapped resources will not satisfy the electricity demands of an industrialising Indonesia by the turn of the century.

Pressure on dollar eases

Sterling firms again, gold soars

LONDON, March 16, (Reuters): Britain's pound sterling rose again today but an international buying spree cooled enough to take some pressure off the dollar, dealers said.

A rising pound last week sent the dollar down against other currencies, too. But sterling's renewed firmness after a tax-cutting British budget yesterday has yet to hit the dollar.

Attraction

Shares were mixed. London's FTSE index of 100 blue chip shares fell more than 10 points in early trading to dip below 1,830. In Tokyo, the Nikkei Stock Market index climbed 228.76 points, or 9.0 per cent, to 2,704.43.

Dealers say they are waiting to see what — if anything — Britain's Central Bank will do to slow the flow of foreign money into the country attracted by relatively high British interest rates. Last week's huge flow affected currency values and share prices around the world.

And Britain's high interest rates mean investors can get a good return on their money by

attraction," said a senior British bank dealer. "The main thing today will be finding out what the Bank of England's up to."

The pound edged up slightly to \$1.85 and was up about 0.75 pence to approach 3.09 Deutsche marks. The dollar, meanwhile, rose about half a penny to 1.67 marks and gained half a yen to 127.50 yen.

The price of gold was fixed in London at \$447.15 an ounce, up \$4.95.

Oil prices remained depressed by a worldwide glut.

Britain, the biggest North Sea oil producer, seems unfazed and in his budget speech yesterday Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson forecast steady, strong growth.

That, and Lawson's tax cuts, should boost shares, but investors are worried that a strong pound will price British goods out of foreign markets.

And Britain's high interest rates mean investors can get a good return on their money by

parking it in British bank accounts and bonds. Their sterling buying has boosted its value.

High interest rates are aimed at keeping inflation down and Britain seems likely to keep rates up.

"Interest rates are really the only effective instrument you have to keep inflation ... and the economy on track," Lawson said in a commercial radio interview today.

Rise

"Although government borrowing has disappeared altogether ... private borrowing is still running at a high level and that is why interest rates have to be maintained high," he said.

If interest rates do not fall, the other way of capping sterling is for the Bank of England to sell pounds.

During Lawson's speech yesterday, the Bank of England intervened to slow sterling's rise, for the first time in days.

"There was a technical downward reaction after the Bank of England intervention yesterday.

Everyone was long and no one wanted to push too far. But now the time has come to push sterling up again," a Frankfurt dealer said.

Dealers are being cautious, however, because of what looked like a dispute over currency rate policy between Lawson and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher last week.

Thatcher is worried that spending money to keep the pound down will boost inflation.

Currency rates preoccupy other markets, too.

Hopes

In Frankfurt, share prices rose as the dollar's firm tone raised hopes that West German companies would not lose still more American sales. Parishes were steady, while Amsterdam's CBS all-share index rose 0.2 points to 82.6. The All-Share Swiss index rose 1.4 points to 857.

Sydney's all-ordinary index eased one point to 1,357.9 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng eased 23.88 points at 2,555.04.

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 17-18, 1988

Oil minister wants to increase Opec's market share

Nazer faces first test

BAHRAIN, March 16, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Hisham Nazer found his task this week he too could influence oil markets.

His charismatic predecessor, veteran Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani, had a habit of talking markets up or down. But a remark by Nazer in Baghdad on Monday sent oil prices into a tailspin.

Oil industry analysts say the problems that haunted Yamani still stalk Saudi Arabia and Nazer now faces his first major test after 15 months in the oil minister's hot seat.

Oil industry analysts say the problems that haunted Yamani still stalk Saudi Arabia and Nazer now faces his first major test after 15 months in the oil minister's hot seat.

Nazer has long-term plans ... (he wants) to increase Opec's market share as world demand expands on stable Opec output and prices," said Peter Nicol of Chase Manhattan Securities in London.

Plans

Those plans include restructuring the Saudi oil industry and establishing a foothold in consumer markets.

"He is not going to give up the Saudi market share or campaign for an output cut as the leader of Opec," an oil industry executive said.

Under Yamani, Saudi Arabia was Opec's "swing producer," cutting output at times of market weakness to help prices recover. But Nazer has made clear Saudi

Arabia will not revert to the role that cost it billions of dollars in lost revenue.

As a swing producer Saudi oil production dropped as low as two million barrels per day (mbpd), compared with its 10 million mbpd capacity.

The analysts said Saudi Arabia was now keeping output to its Opec quota of 4,343,000 bpd and trying to protect its market share by selling oil at prices linked to the spot market, at least to some customers.

Production

"If they discount to everyone, the market will collapse. They are putting their unsold production in storage ... to sell whenever they find buyers," an oil industry executive said.

Oil industry sources said the market was shocked by Nazer's statement in Baghdad at a time when oil prices were firming on expectations of an output cut by Opec.

Plans

"It was an uncompromising statement ... the Saudis will also pay heavily as their oil revenues will be hit," an oil industry executive said.

"A five per cent cut by Opec would have helped prices to recover more than 10 percent," another oil executive said.

But Peter Nicol said the Saudis were also concerned oil prices could rise above Opec's \$18-a-barrel benchmark.

Bacteria cocktail may hold key to boosting world oil reserves

CANBERRA, March 16, (Reuters): Cocktails of bacteria, sand and water kept in an oven in an Australian laboratory may hold the key to adding billions of barrels to world oil reserves.

The mixture is used in experiments that represent a major advance in attempts to extract large quantities of oil left behind by conventional recovery techniques, Australian scientists say.

Worldwide, only about a third of the oil known to be in wells can be recovered.

The problem is that oil is not found in huge underground lakes, but is instead trapped as droplets in capillaries of rock reservoirs.

These bacteria produce a detergent-like substance that breaks the tension and frees the oil from the rock.

Early research projects involved pouring waste dairy products or raw sewage mixed with molasses down oil wells to feed the bacteria.

Pressure

When an oil pipe penetrates the rock, water or gas pressure forces oil to the surface.

But most of the oil is left behind, usually because pressure is too low or the oil is trapped through surface tension created when oil and water meet.

"If you soak a sponge full of oil, then put the sponge under the tap, a lot of oil will wash out. But the sponge will still be fairly oily," said Alan Sheehy, leading the research at the college of

advanced education here in the Australian capital.

"More oil will be released by using detergent to break the surface tension — the force that is holding the oil in the sponge," Sheehy told Reuters.

Scientists all over the world have been trying for several years to overcome the problem by harnessing bacteria that occur naturally in oil wells.

These bacteria produce a detergent-like substance that breaks the tension and frees the oil from the rock.

If we only bring up 0.1 per cent more oil in Australia, a comparatively insignificant amount, that would be worth about eight million dollars (\$3.6 million a barrel)," Sheehy said.

Scientists have generally concentrated on altering the oil well environment to stimulate the bacteria.

Sheehy and his team are not prepared to disclose details of their process. But they say they have tackled the problem from the opposite direction, concentrating on discovering what makes bacteria establish themselves in oil wells in the first place.

The Australians believe they are ahead, with one scientist saying laboratory tests have

Joint insurance planned for Gulf carriers

MANAMA, March 16, (GNA): The executive chairman of Gulf Air, Ali Al Maleki, said today that the three GCC national carriers were planning to have joint insurance for their aircraft.

He said this step would reduce the annual catering costs, which was about £5 million at present.

He called upon GCC carriers to diversify investments into several fields, especially the hotel industry.

He said the GCC carriers were going ahead with a project to joint purchase of aviation fuel.

He hoped that Gulf Air would make a real profit this year, and said a stable oil market would help. He said Gulf Air usually benefited when oil prices drop.

He said they will shortly sign

an agreement to establish an Islamic Kitchen in London to provide their aircraft with catering services.

He added that several other similar kitchens will be established later. He said that the kitchen project would reduce the annual catering costs, which was about £5 million at present.

Ali Maleki said this step was part of a plan to strengthen cooperation between Gulf Air, Saudi Airlines and Kuwait Airways Corporation.

He said that several other joint projects will be carried out in the near future between these airlines.

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DEMOCRATIC presidential candidate Paul Simon and his wife Jeanne react to the cheering crowd after the Illinois senator won the primary election on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



VICE-PRESIDENT George Bush waves to cheering supporters after a GOP victory on Tuesday in the Illinois primary. At left is Illinois Governor James Thompson, and right is Bush's daughter Dorothy. (Reuter wirephoto)



MOURNERS comfort an injured woman after a gun and grenade attack on the funeral of three IRA guerrillas yesterday. Three people were killed and 23 were wounded in the attack. (Reuter wirephoto)



BATON-WIELDING Philippine policemen disperse student activists in front of the US Embassy in Manila on Tuesday. Activists are demanding the pullout of American bases in the country. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH Prime Minister Jacques Chirac (right) and Finance Minister Edouard Balladur brief journalists at the Hotel Matignon in Paris, moments after the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday. They confirmed that the government still expects to cut the budget deficit to around 115 billion francs this year and to 100 billion in 1989. (Reuter wirephoto)



WEST GERMAN Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (right) speaks with Julia Ramashoia (left) and Joyce Mokgosi (centre) in his office yesterday. The two women, relatives of two of the Sharpeville Six who are scheduled to be hanged on Friday, were in Bonn to appeal for help in stopping the planned executions. (Reuter wirephoto)



A RECENT photograph of three-year-old Sulome, daughter of American hostage Terry Anderson, accompanied a message of love from her mother Madeline. Anderson, 40, the Middle East bureau chief of the Associated Press in Beirut was abducted on March 16, 1985. (Reuter wirephoto)

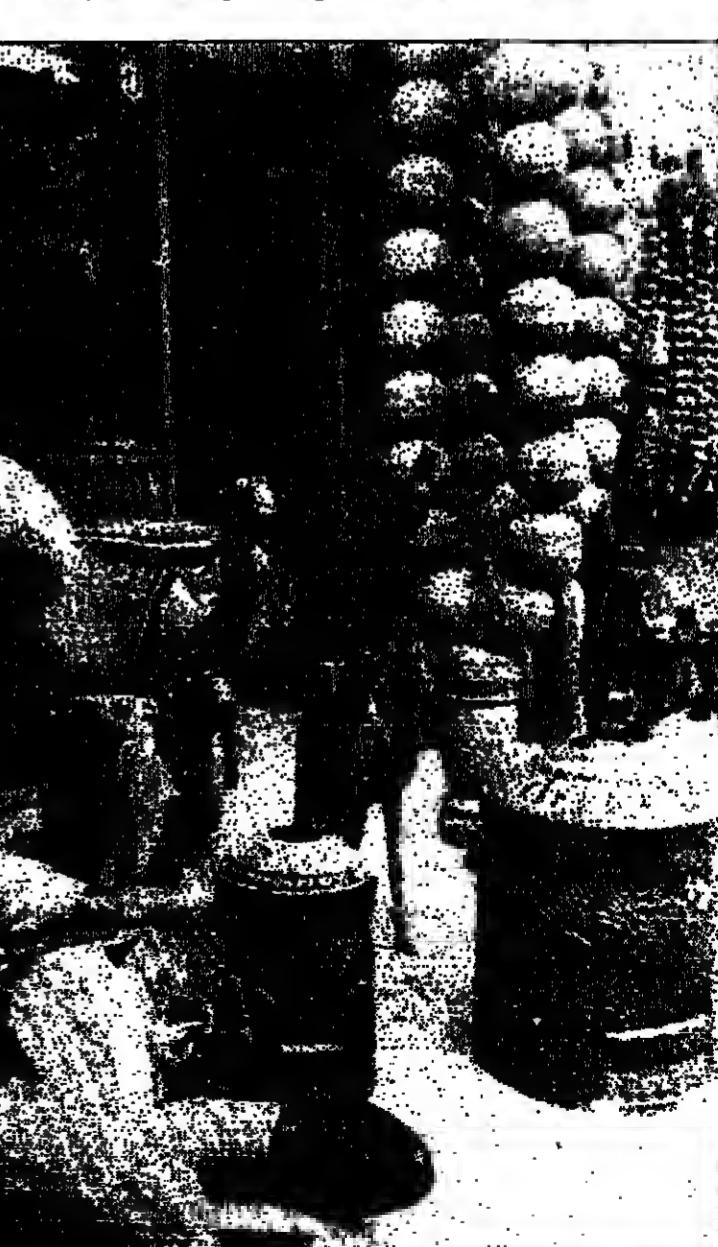
MOTHER THERESA, Nobel Peace Prize winner, receives flowers from children of the SOS Institutions in Hinterbril, Austria, on Tuesday, during a brief visit to Austria. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE owner of this Volkswagen begins the task of digging it out of a large snow drift after heavy snowfall in the Bavarian mountains of Austria. (Reuter wirephoto)



A MAN rushes his daughter out of the Social Security Hospital after it was tear gassed by police during rock throwing riots in Panama City on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



HUSSAM TURJUMAN, 55, overhauls a 150-year-old wooden mehbaj at the central Damascus handicraft market. Hussam, who has been making mehbajs and other wooden handicrafts, said the mehbaj, which was used by Arabs for more than three centuries to grind coffee, is no longer in use since the invention of electric grinders. People now buy them as a reminder of the past. (Reuter wirephoto)

ITALIAN Socialist party leader Bettino Craxi leaves Rome's Quirinal presidential palace after talks with President Cossiga on the formation of a new government yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

IN Fahheel, Al Hashan Commercial Complex, stop Safeway. One fully furnished CAC room with water and electricity for two bachelors or a couple. Bus 105, 109, 101. Rent KD75. Tele. Soma, 39282121. 9am - 1 pm, 4 - 8.30 pm. (AT6-41398-3)

SHARQ, behind the Sharq fire station, for bachelors to share with an Indian family. Tele. 4837518, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT6-41430-3)

BAYAN, 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom, central A/C with water and electricity. Rent KD240. Tele. Abbas, 2610471. 7.30 am - 9 pm, 4811992, 4 - 7 pm. (AT6-41418-3)

MISHREF, a villa, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, plus 3 rooms on the ground floor, with a garden. Rent KD400. Tele. 5389501, 2 - 4 pm only. (AT6-41395-6)

Available

IN Salwa, House 196, Block 7, behind Imani shop. Two big rooms with all facilities, for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 14, 30, 30, 15, 19. Rent KD45 each. Tele. 4843988/9 ext 4184, 10 am - 4 pm. (AT6-41425-3)

SALMIYA, behind the fire station. One big independent room with a separate kitchen and water and electricity, for a family or two-bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD60. Tele. Vipan Oberoi, 4740801, 7.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm. (AT6-41402-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

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AMIGA 1000, excellent graphics, stereo sound, various software, now IBM compatible KD290. Panasonic printer, KD75. Like new. Tele. 5330514. (AT6-41392-3)

Boats

ALMAR (Belgian) nineteen feet, 235 HP, in good condition. KD1,350. Tele. Roger Eley, 4732714, 4732480, 9020336, 7.30 am - 4.30 pm. (AT6-41399-3)

OPTIMIST fibreglass sailing dinghy, suitable for beginners or children. KD60. Also a local tent. KD15. Tele. 4853279. (AT6-41404-3)

SAAB 900 turbo, 16 valve, 85 model, silver, in excellent condition. Highest offer. Tele. H. Bedr, 2413200 ext 757, 12 - 2 pm. (AT6-41394-3)

FOR RENT

* Villas

* Part Villas

* Flats * Offices

Excellent condition with 2-3-4 bedrooms with Dining room, Saloon, Telephone, Garden, Car parking space. Servant's quarters with Central Airconditioning. Contact

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MARKET PLACE

Cars

NISSAN Stanza, 82 model, fully automatic, AC, dark red. In excellent condition. Best offer. Tele. Dha 3982206, any time. (AT6-41412-2)

OLDSMOBILE Cutlass Supreme Brougham 1984 (Aug.), 2 doors, 64,000 km, in excellent condition. Tele. Mike, 4842988 ext. 4146, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT6-41401-3)

JAGUAR XJ6 1982, AC, 5-speed, white, dark leather interior, 40,000 km, Zayani maintained in showroom condition. KD2000 last price. Tele. 5631482. (AT6-41419-3)

TOYOTA Crown super saloon 1983, AC, fully automatic, white, registered Dec 1983. In excellent condition. Tele. 2461372 morning, 4334048 after 3 pm. (AT6-41426-2)

BMW 730, 1979 model, carburetor, automatic, full options, sunroof, Becker radio, white, in very good condition, KD1150 cash. Tele. 4885867. (AT6-41396-3)

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SPORTS

Botham charged with assault and misconduct

PERTH, Australia, March 16, (AP): English Test cricketer Ian Botham was charged with assault and disorderly conduct after an alleged incident on a flight to Perth from Brisbane today, Australian Federal Police said.

Botham, a member of the Queensland state cricket team in Perth to meet Western Australia in the final of the domestic Sheffield Shield competition, could also face disciplinary action by the Queensland Cricket Association (QCA).

Regulations

He was expected to be released on bail from east Perth police station later today, Australian Associated Press (AAP) reported.

Police said the two assault charges were under the crimes act and the disorderly conduct charge was under Australian Air Navigation Act regulations.

AAP reported that Botham had been taken to Federal Police headquarters in Perth for questioning.

Geoffrey Court, state manager of the domestic Ansett Airlines, said several passengers complained about the behaviour of the Queensland cricket team and that the complaints were forwarded to Federal Police.

AAP said police interviewed and took statements from several passengers today.

Botham and Queensland captain Allan Border both refused to comment on the incident.

QCA secretary Grantley Evans has called for a report into the incident, saying Botham might have violated an Australian Cricket Board code-of-behaviour regulation.

He said the regulation warned that a player must not engage in a public act of misconduct or unruly public behaviour while representing Australia or his state.

Involve

Evans said the report would be forwarded to the QCA's state commissioner, Ron Archer, for a hearing and determination.

The hearing, which will involve Evans, Archer and Border, will be held when the team arrives back in Brisbane.

Border, who sat two seats away from Botham on the flight, appeared slightly stunned by the charges when he returned to his hotel with coach Ray Reynolds this evening.

"I am very surprised that it has gone this far," Border said. "We will inform the players, but I don't want them worrying about it. They have enough on their minds. Ian has taken it fairly hard."

Borders said the incident would not jeopardise Botham's appearance in the final.

Sri Lankans name squad for Sharjah

COLOMBO, March 16, (Reuter): The Sri Lankan cricket selectors have named a 14-man squad for the three-nation Sharjah Cup tournament which starts on March 25.

Thirteen of the party went on the recent tour of Australia, the three missing players being Hashan Tilkeratne and Athula Samarasekera, who are now touring Zimbabwe with the Sri Lanka 'B' side, and Srilankan Jeganathan.

New Zealand and India are the other two teams competing in Sharjah.

The Sri Lanka's squad: R.S. Madugalle (captain), A. Ranasinghe, R.S. Mahanama, D.S.B. Kuruppu, A.P. Gurusingha, P.A. de Silva, J.R. Ratnayake, R.G. de Alwis, G.F. Labrooy, H.C.P. Ramanayake, K.N. Amalean, S.D. Upasasri, Asoka de Silva, S.M.S. Kulupuruma.

New Goans and Strikers reach final

NEW GOANS and United Goan Strikers reached the final of the Kuwait Malayalee Samajam Trophy football tournament, sponsored by Sana Household, with victories over Vandana and Rising Boys respectively at the Fahheel grounds on Tuesday.

The first game between Vandana and New Goans was a very closely fought game and was decided in a penalty shootout.

Penalty

There were few anxious moments for both the teams. New Goans failed to score in the last minute of the normal time when the ball rolled in front of the Vandana goal and the New Goans' players failed to tap it in.

After the teams failed to reach a decision in the extra time, the game went into a penalty shootout. New Goans scored on all of their five penalty shots while Vandana missed one.

PAKISTAN LOSE SECOND ONE-DAY GAME

Ambrose fires W. Indies to victory

ST. JOHNS, Antigua, March 16, (Reuter): West Indies, with their emerging fast bowler Curtley Ambrose again playing a decisive part, beat Pakistan by five wickets in the second one-day international yesterday.

Ambrose captured four for 35 and was effectively supported by fellow Antiguan Winston Benjamin, who took three for 27, to set up a decisive victory that gave West Indies a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

Imran Khan's Pakistanis were put in to bat and restricted to 166 for nine in 46 overs. West Indies, captained for the first time by Gordon Greenidge while Viv Richards recovers from an operation, swept home at 167 for five with 8.5 overs to spare.

Reached

Opener Phil Simmons, with a belligerent 53, and Greenidge put on 86 in 18 overs, and although five wickets fell relatively cheaply, the target was reached comfortably.

West Indies' success was achieved essentially on the strength of their four-pronged pace attack in which Ambrose and Benjamin were the outstanding performers, to the delight of their adoring home crowd.

Ambrose, whose four for 39 on his international debut helped West Indies win the opening game in Kingston last Saturday, again struck telling blows when he shared the new ball with



Simmons: gave W. Indies a good start

Patrick Patterson here.

Patterson made the initial breakthrough in the fifth over when Rameez Raja, after hitting two successive fours, lifted a delivery to mid-wicket.

In the next over, Ambrose bowled Miandad in edge to wicket-keeper Jeff Dujon after making a patient 24.

Hall the side were out for 72

off 25 overs hut, not for the first time in his illustrious career, Imran influenced a revival in which 91 runs were added from the 21 further overs bowled before time ran out. Pakistan's captain made a workmanlike 53 off 101 balls, including three fours.

When West Indies launched their reply, Simmons played in typically aggressive fashion and outscored Greenidge. He reached his 50 off 46 deliveries with nine fours but was out shortly afterwards, edging a delivery from Mudassar into his stumps.

After his departure, two wickets fell rapidly. Greenidge became the first international victim of medium-pacer Hafiz Shahid when he was caught at mid-on by Imran trying to hit over the top.

Ricbie Richardson, also trying to force the pace, was caught at deep backward square off Mudassar.

Imran, who was smashed for 20 runs in two overs at the start of the innings, returned to dismiss Gus Logie and Carlisle Best. But Carl Hooper and Dujon knocked off the remaining 26, Hooper sealing the win with a cover-driven four.

Benjamin was named Man of the Match.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN

Mudassar Nazar b Ambrose 4

Hall the side were out for 72

off an outswinger. When Ejaz Ahmed was caught at forward short leg off Benjamin, Pakistan were reeling at 40 for four.

Javed Miandad and Imran put on 32 before Benjamin induced Miandad in edge to wicket-keeper Jeff Dujon after making a patient 24.

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SPORTS**AL HAJRI AIMS FOR THIRD VICTORY****Kuwait International Rally starts today****By Gail Seery**

THERE is no such thing as an easy rally, according to former Middle East Champion Saeed Al Hajri. "A rally is never easy. I must work hundred per cent — myself and my team — to do well and win the rally — if I have luck."

Al Hajri snatched a few moments to speak to the Arab Times between practice sessions yesterday, and was clearly relaxed and confident for today's Kuwait International Rally. "Some say it's a small and easy rally," he continued, "but this is also a very fast rally." He felt that the need to travel at such high speeds put more pressure on him as a driver, and on the car. "It's fast and maybe a little dangerous," he said. However "it's the same as last year; the Kuwait rally is the fastest rally of the championship."

Disposition

Al Hajri will be driving a powerful Rothmans-hacked Audi Quattro in this rally, and has the traction advantages of 4wd as well as high speed at his disposal. He makes no bones about his aims. "I am here to take



Harry Carr: ready for the rally.

my third win in Kuwait. I want to win every rally I do. I wouldn't do a rally for fun any more. There is so much more to worry about at this level, and I have to keep my sponsors happy."

"I will push from the start," he continued. "After two stages we will be able to see what Mohammed Bin Sulayem is doing."

"Michel Saleh is quick and will stay with us." Al Hajri had said earlier that first and second positions were already booked for the whole season. However he admitted that Saleh has the potential to upset this.

Not that Saleh has any doubt that it is so. He has long been renowned as a fast driver, but one who has suffered problems in the past, and he is well aware that whilst he might have the ability to challenge the other two, his car and team is not as well supported financially as either Al Hajri or Sulayem's. Two of his main sponsors are the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Royal Jordan Airlines.

Saleh has no doubt as to what



Sulayem during last year's rally.

"I know now that we have been banging our heads against a brick wall. There is no way you can beat these cars with conventional cars. I now understand the meaning of Group B rallying."

"Things happen so much faster. I can't imagine a private entrant could ever manage to support one of these cars."

"Michel is definitely a top driver — his car control is good, as is his judgement as a driver."

Lange now finds himself having to get used to his new role as navigator, and he continued, "I am more scared about me making mistakes, through not being used to the speed and misleading him into mistakes."

The pair have had little opportunity to practise, especially with the earlier start problems. "We are practising in the Manta, so again we have the problems of adjustment. The Manta is by no means a slow car, but it's not in the same league as the Audi."

One thing has now become very clear to Lange, one of Kuwait's top drivers, who has not competed since last year's International. "The championship is not run for Group S Cars. You have to be up to group B car standards."

Gap

Lange doesn't expect to win. "We are not heavily sponsored and can't overdo it. I don't think the gap between us will be too big. We are capable of being up front, but it is unwise to get into a fight with the front runners without support."

Lange feels he has learned a great deal about the difference between the factory cars and the Group B cars driven by drivers like himself. "We are not comparing apples and oranges, we are comparing apples and potatoes," he said with a grin.

Mohammed Bin Sulayem and navigator Ronan Morgan were out practising all day yesterday trying to make up the lost time.

Abas Al Mousawi told the Arab Times that he was most disappointed to find that the top seeds were back in the race. "I thought it was my chance to win," he said. "I thought it was a chance to go out and drive and stand a chance of winning. It did my heart good, but that's over now." His words were echoed by his ex-navigator, Mubarak Al Hajri, now navigating for

Saeed's younger brother, who was to start the rally second.

Closer to home there is a separate struggle taking place within the rally. This is the tussle developing between Tareq Al Wazzan, backed by Marlboro and Ahmed Al Hilal of Rothmans, for the National Championship. There are 48 points to be won here and both Hilal and Wazzan are determined to find themselves leading the championship by a comfortable margin at the end of this rally.

Nor are they the only ones out to be the first Kuwaiti team home. Miskulin is aiming to prove himself, along with navigator Klaus Schwingensloegl. They will be making a strong bid for National Championship points in the Nissan 240RS.

Mohammed Al Husseini had been having a few problems with his car, but hoped that he would be able to put in a good run for top points. He is now backed by Commercial Bank, and sees this event as the second of a long season.

Good

Ghazi Al Zafiri said his car was going well. "We tested it and everything is good, especially on the humps. I need one thing — luck." Ahmed Al Zafiri had to work through the night to repair the gearbox on the Opel Ascona, and Harry Carr was also having gearbox problems. Indeed, gearboxes are definitely suffering on this event. Younis Ali, the highest placed novice in the last local rally had similar problems and doubted whether his car would be able to complete the event.

Dennis sponsored husband and wife team Tareq and Khuloud Alyan will be aiming for seventh position, in the tiny Daihatsu Charade which did so well in last year's rally. A second husband and wife team is Al Syam editor Faiez Chihab and wife Hanan. Chihab is an national champion, and came third in the last local rally.



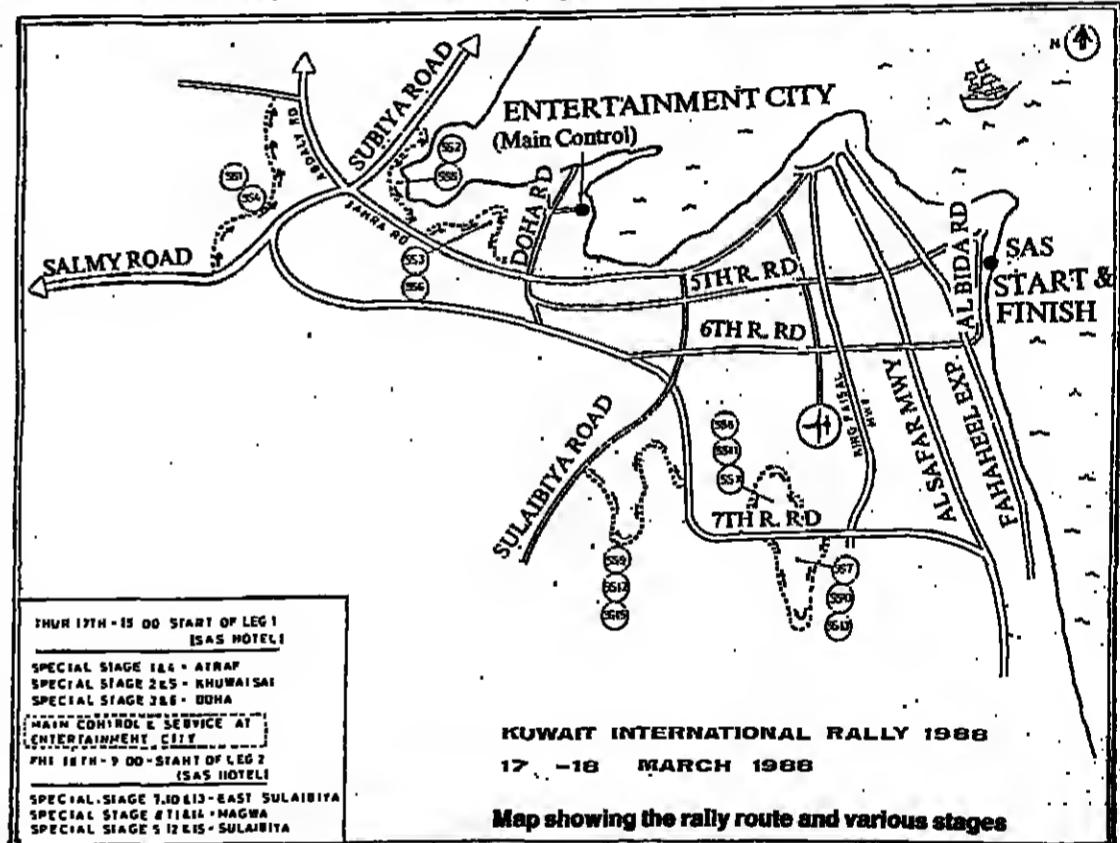
Al Hilal (right) and Fahad Al Rashed.



Josef Miskulin (right) and Klaus.



Al Wazzan (left) and Eid Falah (right): aim for a good position.



KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL RALLY 1988
17 - 18 MARCH 1988
Map showing the rally route and various stages

Car / Driver / Co-Driver	Car	GR	CL	Start time
44 Saeed Al Hajri / Steve Bond (Rothmans Rally Team)	Audi Quattro	A	12	12:30
45 Mohammed Bin Sulayem / Ronan Morgan (Toyota Team Middle East)	Toyota Celica	B	12	12:32
46 Michel Saleh / Ottmar Lange	Audi Quattro	A	12	12:34
1 Abbas Al Hajri / A Wahid Al Haye (Merch Rally Team)	Peugeot Talbot	B	12	12:36
2 Mubarak Al Hajri / M Al Hajri	Opel Manta	B	12	12:38
3 Ahmed Al Zafiri / Abdur Rahman Al Stumari	Opel Ascona	A	12	12:40
4 Ahmed Al Hajri / Fahad Al Rashed	Toyota Corolla	A	12	12:42
5 Al Hajri / Zafiri / Zafiri	Toyota Celica	S	12	12:44
6 Mohd Al Husseini / Ibrahim Al Mousawi	Toyota Celica	S	12	12:46
7 Tareq Al Wazzan / Khalid Khalifa	Range Rover	S	12	12:48
8 Ahmed Al Nasser / Bader Al Zaidi	Mitsubishi Lancer	B	12	12:50
9 Joseph Miskulin / Klaus Schwengenloegl	Nissan 340RS	B	12	12:52
10 Lester Featherstonehaugh / Mike Allen	Volvo 240	A	12	12:54
11 Michael Allen / Martin Phillips	Volvo 240	A	12	12:56
12 Farid El Sayed / David Orwick	Range Rover	S	12	12:58
13 Sultan Al Shoman / Prince Valsen	Toyota Celica	S	12	13:00
14 Faiez Chihab / Hanan Chihab	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:02
15 Tareq Al Hajri / Khalid Khalifa	Charade	S	12	13:04
16 Ahmad Al Nasser / Bader Al Zaidi	Range Rover	S	12	13:06
17 Joseph Miskulin / Klaus Schwengenloegl	Nissan 340RS	B	12	13:08
18 Lester Featherstonehaugh / Mike Allen	Volvo 240	A	12	13:10
19 Michael Allen / Martin Phillips	Volvo 240	A	12	13:12
20 Farid El Sayed / David Orwick	Range Rover	S	12	13:14
21 Sultan Al Shoman / Prince Valsen	Toyota Celica	S	12	13:16
22 Khaled Al Khamees / Abdul Latif Rashed	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:18
23 Ghazi Al Zafiri / Saeed Al Zafiri	Suzuki Jeep	S	12	13:20
24 Khalifa Rashed / Hassan Sarhan	Charade	S	12	13:22
25 Abdulla Al Shuwalee / Anwar Abu Jarwa	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:24
26 Ibrahim Al Mousawi / Tala Al Attar	Charade	S	12	13:26
27 Nori Al Hasswi / Ahmed Al Shafeeq	Charade	S	12	13:28
28 Younis Ali / Waleed Al Zaidi	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:30
29 Mubarak Al Hajri / Adnan Al Awad	Charade	S	12	13:32
30 Jumai Marafi / Adnan Marafi	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:34
31 Saad Al Marzuri / Mazah Dalmayne	Charade	S	12	13:36
32 Peer Horn / Marc Horn	Suzuki Jeep	S	12	13:38
33 Sarkis Sourjani / Andre Sourjani	Charade	S	12	13:40
34 Hassan Al Hamad / Athal Al Hamad	Mitsubishi Lancer	S	12	13:42
35 Jasim Ben Hay / Hussain Aseeri	Charade	S	12	13:44
36 Ahmad Al Mousawi / Ishaq Al Harbi	Charade	S	12	13:46
37 Ahmad Al Shoman / Ahmed Al Edreesi	Charade	S	12	13:48
38 Ali Al Edrisi / Maslam Al Mutairi	Charade	S	12	13:50
39 Abdurazzak Al Khamees / Fandi Al Rasheed	Charade	S	12	13:52
40 Harry Carr / Kenneth Speak	Charade	S	12	13:54
41 Mohammed Jarar / George Reid	Charade	S	12	13:56
42 Musaed Faraj / Mufeed Mubarak	Charade	S	12	13:58
43 Khaled Al Shoman / Prince Valsen	Charade	S	12	14:00
Total number of entrants : 45		N	12	14:28

Total number of entrants : 45

Cameroun to meet Nigeria

RABAT, March 16. (Reuter): Nigeria's sharpshooting "Green Eagles" take on the "Indomitable Lions" of Cameroun in a mouthwatering encounter at the top of a Group B in the Africa Nations Cup finals tomorrow.

In the second match of the evening, defending champions Egypt plan to get their campaign to retain the trophy back on course with victory over underdogs Kenya.

Revenge

A fourth minute goal by veteran striker Roger Milla gave Cameroun sweet revenge for defeat by Egypt in the final two years ago while Kenya never looked like coming back from 3-0 down against Nigeria after half an hour in the group's opening games.

Cameroun will be playing without their 21-year-old wonderboy Francois Omam Biyik of French club Laval who had to leave the field on a stretcher after

Bomb hoax

MADRID, March 16. (Reuter): Real Madrid quit their hotel after a midnight bomb hoax on the eve of today's European Cup quarterfinal second-leg tie against West German soccer champions Bayern Munich, a hotel spokesman said.

He said police ordered the evacuation of the Monte Real Hotel in an exclusive Madrid suburb after a telephoned bomb warning.

He said police ordered the evacuation of the Monte Real Hotel in an exclusive Madrid suburb after a telephoned bomb warning.

the recurrence of a nagging leg injury.

He will not be fit in time, so once again the team will have to rely on the 36-year-old Milla to lead the attack. Milla is playing his last Africa Nations Cup after announcing he would quit the game next year.

Nigeria got off to a dream start against Kenya rifling home two goals in the first 12 minutes.

Disaster then struck the Harambee Stars in the 33rd minute when a goalkeeping error presented Nduhius Okosiemie with an easy goal to put the Eagles beyond reach.

The goal was first credited to Sam Okwaraifi but it was later discovered he had swapped shirts with Okosiemie.

Kenya took Nigeria to extra time in the Africa Games soccer final last year before going down 1-0.

Crampton scores victory

SUN CITY WEST, Ariz., March 16 (AP): Australian Bruce Crampton birdied the seventh hole to win top money worth \$7,000 and his second consecutive Arizona Classic Senior Skins game at Hillcrest golf course here yesterday.

Crampton's chip shot on the 416-yard par-4 seventh hole broke a four-way tie with Senior PGA golfers Doug Sanders, Gene Little and Billy Casper.

Little birdied the par-3 eighth hole and Sanders won the final hole to win \$1,000 each.

Playing on the back nine through strong wind gusts, the four golfers were even after the first six holes. Sanders had a chance to break the tie but missed a short putt on the sixth hole that would have given him an eagle and \$6,000.

The Skins game was played in advance of the \$225,000 Senior PGA Arizona Classic.

The 54-hole tournament will be played Friday, Saturday and Sunday on the 6,672-yard, par-72 Hillcrest golf course.

After extra time,

(Score 59) 50 minutes 2-2, eventual winners

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